FBIS DAILY REPORT

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EEC URGED TO PROVIDE AID FOR ANDEAN PACT

PY291937 Paris AFP in Spanish 0001 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Lima, 29 Oct (AFP) -- Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner asserted here today that the foreign debt is the main obstacle preventing the Andean Pact from having the necessary resources for its development and urged the EEC to provide aid to overcome this problem. Wagner inaugurated a seminar on the prospects of cooperation between the EEC and the Andean Pact, seeking new ways of integration. The seminar is being held at the Cartagena Consensus Headquarters in Lima and will last until Wednesday, 30 October. The seminar proposed a political and lasting solution to the foreign debt problem as well as the preservation of democracy as the main pillars of the relations between the two integration bodies.

Bolivian, Colombian, Ecuadoran, Peruvian, Venezuelan, and EEC experts are attending the meeting, which is also analyzing proposals for eliminating protectionism in trade, promoting investment, developing agricultural and industrial production, and transferring technology.

The Peruvian minister asserted that the EEC must not discriminate against our exports for that is the only way to overcome the present serious crisis. It was learned at the seminar that the foreign debt of the five Andean Pact members amounts to over $70 billion. EEC representative Jof Loeff asserted that the time has come to improve relations with the Andean Pact.

AREA CONGRESSMEN INVITED TO DAMASCUS CONFERENCE

PA310047 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 20 Oct 85 p D 2

[By Rosita Caldera]

[Excerpts] Iniam Raid, former president of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, [NSSP], currently a member of the NSSP Political Committee, and a leader of the Lebanese Democratic Front, is in Caracas to announce that an Arab-Latin American conference is going to be held in Damascus.

Prior to his arrival in Caracas, Raad attended in Cartagena a congress of federations of Arab organizations and associations in Latin America which are in charge of developing the relations between this region and the Middle East. These relations will be made more evident during the conference in Damascus which will open next week and which is sponsored by the Syrian People's Council and the Lebanese National Assembly. Many Latin American congressmen of Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian origin have been invited.

CARTAGENA CONSENSUS TO DISCUSS U.S. PROPOSAL

PY290252 Paris AFP in Spanish 2021 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Oct (AFP) -- It was reported here today that the Consensus of Cartagena, which groups the 11 most indebted Latin American countries, will meet in Montevideo in mid-December to discuss the proposal that the United States made in Seoul. Uruguay currently holds the secretariat of the Consensus of Cartagena, to which Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, the Dominican Republic, and Venezuela also belong.

The gathering in Montevideo will be the first that the 11 countries will hold following the annual meeting of IMF and World Bank governors, on whose results most Cartagena Consensus governments have yet to make any comments.

ALFONSIN SPEAKS ON STATE OF SIEGE, DEMOCRACY

PY310125 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Speech to the nation by President Raul Alfonsin on 30 October -- recorded]

[Text] On the eve of the second anniversary of the victory that Argentina attained after crossing an ocean of sorrow, I speak to you firmly and confidently. I am certainly as bitter as you are over this absurd attempt at disrupting order, but I am equally sure these attempts will not thwart our march forward.

In 1983 we Argentines rediscovered life. Hope, pride, national drive surged forth. We were aware that we were on the threshold of the final stage -- the point of no return -- that would allow us to build the country we need, the country we deserve. Thus, we recovered our rights, we went back to deciding for ourselves what we wanted to be, what we are going to be, and also what we will not be.

A new system, a new government took in its hands the reins of the country, a country that was on the brink of collapse, a country that the entire world considered dead. Its economy was destroyed, there was hunger and, worst of all, its hopes were exhausted. At that point, in a vital gesture, compelled by our unbridled lust for life, we Argentines decided not to quit, not to give up.

Today, this new system has resurrected hope. It is reorganizing the economy and the currency. It is endowing work and life with solid and stable foundations. It is guaranteeing, as had not happened in many years, the people's freedom, and it is reinstating this nation in its proper place on the international scene.

I believe that this is the reality we will perceive around us. However, just as the lightning in a storm reveals objects one did not perceive before, recent events have exposed certain realities that some people perceived vaguely or not at all. A few people who have decided to attack Argentines in disregard of the national will have attacked democracy with low blows. They have hit where it hurts most, in the houses where our future citizens, who will build our future, are being raised and educated. Yes, they have decided to attack our future.

We Argentines have a good memory. We know very well who is to blame. It is those who have raised the banner of death, who are intolerant, and who do not accept disagreement, because in the confrontation of ideas they would lose even before beginning to fight. It is the ones who want to come and impose order on us at gunpoint.

Two years ago, Argentina took a leap to freedom. It was the fourth time in 30 years that the Argentine people tried to use its votes to rebuild a system of democratic coexistence, amid the routine coup plots and conspiracies that debased our national life over that long period. In retrospect, the three previous attempts to rebuild democracy had something in common: an ominous fate of instability, caused in all cases by the fact that our division was stronger than our unity and by the lack of a solid, monolithic consensus in favor of the rules of democracy. All those governments spent their first 2 years under the threat of coup plots, of which the people were aware with increasing disappointment, because they appeared as unequivocal signs of the Argentine future.

For the first time in these long and turbulent 30 years, we Argentines today commemorate the second anniversary of the restoration of democracy with the clear impression that this time we are actually succeeding, that the system is becoming stronger, and that the coup threats -- also present in this case -- are not strong enough to prevail.

Let us be careful and avoid mistaken interpretations of the phenonemon we are currently witnessing. The conspiracies built upon the divisions among Argentines in the three previous democratic attempts are now showing their weaknesses, because they are having to resort to the desperate hysteria of terrorism. In the past, violent solutions succeeded because society was violent, because society gave both passive and active support to the violent actions by both sides.

But ours is no longer a violent society. There is no social violence. There are differences which are logical, and legitimate demands that are posed in conformity with the law. Our political life is normal, and there are neither restrictions nor proscriptions. Our guarantees and rights are respected and are exercised without curtailment or distortions. The Argentine people are aware of this, because they are experiencing it. Yet, like a terrifying ghost emerging from the past, an absurd and sinister terror has sought to prevail over our conscience and over our people's coexistence. This terror is obstinately seeking to hinder the work by a people who are engaged in a reconstruction task and to obstruct the fruitful debate over the path we have to follow to build our future on the basis of freedom and growth.

I will not condemn these insane ghosts. Whoever has placed bombs at a school has already condemned himself. Their violent actions have neither a political nor a social meaning. It does not even represent a wrong or absurd path in support of reasonable demands. It is plain madness. It is the madness of the professionals of violence, who have nothing to do in a society which detests violence and which rejects the humiliation and tyranny of the past. The recently staged attacks, the threats, and the psychological campaigns were not caused by a violent social conflict. They were caused by professionals. The time for clarifying some things in Argentina has come. What do these disrupters want?

Although this may seem incredible and absurd, they want to seize power.

How do they plan to do this? Just as we can see: by creating insecurity, a feeling of impunity, giving rise to the idea that democracy is incapable of defending the citizens.

And so, there are the thousands of anonymous telephone calls, 1,806 bomb threats, and 42 bombs that actually exploded. Furthermore, they seek to be mistaken for certain institutions of the state, thus creating an impression that there is a confrontation, especially within the Armed Forces.

Strangely enough, they also want to make believe through psychological actions that the government is the very one to blame for the attacks, for electoral purposes or to attack the very institutions of the state. As if a government that requires peace, that needs all its institutions, that has all the legal rights to rule, in a country where more than 95 percent of the people support the democratic system, has to resort to these kinds of actions.

The Argentines have enough common sense to realize where all this is coming from. This is the method of those who have no popular support, of those who want power regardless of the people.

These disturbances are not taking place in a virgin society. This community unfortunately is well experienced in political instability, it knows full well the sirens' calls of the minority groups that begin by casting doubts on the honorability or the efficiency of democracy to end up by vesting themselves with the will of the entire community and restricting the people's freedom without even blushing a bit. There is no shame in those who nowadays appear before the people as alleged champions of individual freedom and rights, although we all recall how they served authoritarianism and how they flagrantly violated human dignity and constitutional order.

Even so, democracy will not leave them unprotected by the law and the rule of law based on popular sovereignty. We take pride in the fact that democracy can allow society to discuss and take an interest in habeas corpus, although some of those who today seek the protection of this legal shelter refused, not so long ago, this very same possibility to thousands of detainees, many of whom never got to see their families again.

In sum, we have here a state under attack, a challenged nation, security threatened, and our international prestige undermined.

By whom? By men who are a veritable threat because they neither see nor understand the nation and the world other than through the distorted lenses of their own madness.

We cannot tolerate threats to destroy the effort that 30 million women and men have been making for 2 years, for this effort now allows us to envisage a future of true well being for each and every one of us. Since everyone knows what we have gained, they also know what we could lose.

The exceptional measures provided for in our Constitution have been implemented because of the prevailing situation, to cut off at the root these threats to social peace. In exercising the powers the Constitution grants to me, I stand on the popular and republican legitimacy the nation has conferred upon me.

The carelessness that some tried to see in the legal measures the government adopted to cope with the mounting campaign by these professionals of violence only reflected our reluctance to disturb society in the struggle against a few people. The declaration of a state of siege in our country has always been equated with violence against the people, because many times through emergency measures attempts were made to silence the citizenry not represented and not identified with the political power. For this reason, the decision to adopt it was not pleasant for us.

But no Argentine should be confused over its current and special application. This is not a state of siege against the peopple, I can assure you, but a state of siege that the people have declared against the professionals of authoritarianism, so as to neutralize and isolate them. The citizens will continue to live as usual, fully exercising their rights, without any restrictions, whether they agree or disagree with the government, whether they criticize, go about their activities, or make proposals. Only those who attack society, a society marching toward the future, will not be able to do what they want, because they have already decided not to be part of this society.

Undoubtedly they do not know but they will soon learn that democracy is not weak, that it can defend itself, and that it cannot tolerate impunity, nor the existence of anomalous bodies, clandestine groups, or mafia organizations that compound terror with malicious propaganda in order to oppose the decision of the Argentine people to live in freedom and to grow.

This is the best answer, because it is a moral, legal, and legitimate answer.

I, therefore, want to tell all Argentines and to notify the disrupters that with this episode, the national situation will definitively be clarified. Democracy and the government will fight. Those who yearn for heavy-handedness will once and for all be sidelined in Argentina.

We have all learned how much it costs to ignore signs of danger. Our memories are filled with sufferings and our hearts with hopes, and therefore we will not fail to do what we must. Because of the sufferings we have experienced, above all because of the hopes we share, we will confront this threat together. And to understand why a firm answer is needed, we simply have to look at what is at stake, at the risk that our country might be diverted from the road it has begun to tread.

Argentine society is going through a process of reaccommodation. The various parts of society are falling back into their logical and natural places, and this, of course, cannot be done without difficulty.

The case of the Armed Forces requires attention and care. It is not easy to bring about a rapprochement between the civilians and military after so many years of distortion in their relations and functions.

On one side, the civilians are used to seeing the military as the only ones who are responsible for the country's situation. Tempted to simplify issues, civilians forget that a modern country cannot be built without an Armed Forces actively integrated into the growth process.

On the other side, some military men, driven by the momentum of having exercised government functions for many years, have forgotten the idea that they are part of the state, not the whole state.

Also, there are two circumstances that are part of the times we live in that contribute to make it difficult for the Armed Forces to be definitively incorporated into the state.

First, the trials of responsibility for the antiterrorist repression; second, severe restrictions on expenditures. These are two problems that must be addressed in a straightforward manner.

About the first, all Argentines must realize without a shadow of doubt that the trials that are taking place are against certain men, not an institution. Those who are confused about this issue do not realize that a society cannot attack its institutions without attacking itself.

It is true that the Armed Forces played a political role that was alien to them. But it is equally true that Argentina's political society was unable to assume clear-cut leadership of national political affairs.

Thus, this is not a question of looking for scapegoats.

In fact, it would be dangerous to do so because it would obscure the true causes of the nation's decay. Furthermore, the overall situation in the country precludes the active participation of the Armed Forces in state activities because we are all experiencing a severe reduction in public expenditures.

But there were no other options. A healthy economy cannot be based on illusions, it cannot ignore reality, nor can it be achieved without sacrifices. What makes an effort legitimate is that sacrifice must be shared by all, and the results will go to strengthen the nation.

Thus, I want to tell all of you that there will not be a strong Armed Forces and a weak and anachronistic state, just as there will not be a strong state without a great, striving nation, occupying a privileged place in the world.

We are aware of these problems. We are aware of the efforts and even of the doubts of some. But we are also aware, and I would like to share this knowledge with all of you, that the worst is over, that in 1986 anguish over the past will give way to enthusiasm over the future.

The 2-year period ending today developed amid prevailing unity and consensus about democracy, a nationwide will to build it and a strong nationwide decision to defend it. In the phase that begins today, unity and consensus for democracy must become unity and consensus for a national project.

The 2 years that have passed have put to the test our social solidarity through the launching of social programs aimed at curbing hunger, misery, sickness, and illiteracy, and also demonstrated democracy's capacity for self-correction and the maturity of the Argentine people when reacting to the mistakes and achievements the government did make. The phase that begins today will test our solidarity for production and growth.

But the battle for democracy must be won every day. This is not quite the time to rest on one's laurels. Recent developments show the enemy is there, that it is looking for a loophole, a crack in the Argentine people, to work its way in. Let us not give him this loophole.

In 4 days we Argentines will vote, for the first time in 20 years, for a partial change in our legislative bodies, and it is important for these elections to preserve the image of a united Argentina, where support for the democratic system and the decision to defend it will be the token of unity between the government and the opposition, above and beyond, of course, their natural disagreements.

Let us respond to those attacks that seek to weaken and undermine democracy with the votes that will strengthen it, that will confirm democracy's willingness to survive, and that will strengthen the tools and instruments that democracy will need to counter -- during the stage that still lies ahead of us -- the danger of once again being divided.

When everything was sadness, we dreamed that we were living again. We dreamed of this despite the prevailing situation, and we made the dream come true.

Now that all of us know that we have confirmed and proven to ourselves that we can change, we will undoubtedly continue on this course. As in the past, it will be through our collective ambitions that we shall overcome our current difficulties with faith and hope.

What should be our task? What should be our ambition?

Our task and our ambition should be those indicated by our time, by the world in which we live, and by our people's needs. Our task and our ambition should be that inner driving force which is beginning to take shape: The modernization and growth of Argentina in an atmosphere of social justice.

That is the great undertaking that will give us national strength, social solidarity, and freedom. This undertaking is already moving forward. But this is only a beginning. It is less than what we can do and less than what we have to do.

Thus, this all-encompassing national renewal should be Argentina's main task and ambition.

Argentina wanted to survive, and it did survive. Today it wants to grow, and it will grow. Argentina showed its resolve 2 years ago, and it must continue to show its determination.

We know that Argentina's future depends on its own determination.

However, recent events have reminded us that it is necessary to continue to struggle for life, that the battle being fought in this stage of the new national reorganization has not yet been definitively won. There are threatening enemies who despair as they see that democracy succeeds, because they know that as democracy becomes stronger, they will be losing their chance to once again tread on the will of the people. They also know that they are running short of excuses.

We are already seeing the results of an effort that is bearing its fruit for the well-being of everyone. We should not let anyone, anything, destroy what we have already built. Too many things have happened. Everyone knows what has happened. We should thus use our experience to guarantee our future, a future we sense to be near, a future that we know we can build and that we will build.

Because if we were able to do what we have done, we will also be able to do what has never been done before. We will build the Argentina of our dreams, the Argentina in which we could never live. In this way, we will change our country with the help of each man, each woman, each youth, and each adolescent.

Each Argentine will conquer this new land.

Yes, we Argentines should now conquer Argentina. Thank you very much.

U.S. AMBASSADOR MEETS ALFONSIN, VOICES 'CONCERN'

PY302230 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2112 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 Oct (NA) -- U.S. Ambassador Frank Ortiz last Sunday reportedly conveyed to President Raul Alfonsin his concern over reports that the U.S. Government had provided Argentina with information on the "disruption" plan disclosed by the executive branch, on the alleged residence in Miami of former General Guillermo Suarez Mason, and on Suarez Mason's alleged connections with the drug and arms trade, it was learned today from a reliable source. The source said Ortiz conveyed his concern to Alfonsin during a meeting held at the Olivos residence that was also attended by Foreign Minister Dante Caputo.

STATE OF SIEGE DECREE SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS

PY310021 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2334 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Oct (TELAM) -- The executive branch today submitted to the National Congress the text of Decree 2069-85 implementing the state of siege throughout the nation. The message attached to the decree, which was submitted to the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon, explains the reason why this measure was adopted and reiterates that the measure will not affect the electoral campaign.

ALFONSIN REPORTEDLY TO ANNOUNCE SUAREZ' ARREST

PY301404 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1216 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 30 Oct (DYN) -- In its 30 October issue, the morning daily LA NUEVA PROVINCIA states that President Rual Alfonsin will announce today the arrest of demoted General Guillermo Suarez Mason in the United States and that the case was reviewed last Sunday during a meeting held in Olivos between the head of state and U.S. Ambassador Frank Ortiz.

In a box entitled "Scoop: Sensational Report," the Bahia Blanca newspaper cites reports that "spread like wildfire in UCR [Radical Civic Union] circles," stating that Alfonsin will make this announcement tonight while speaking over a radio and television network on the second anniversary of the elections that brought him to power.

"According to some UCR leaders, President Alfonsin will announce today -- during his address to the nation, which will be broadcast over the national television network -- the arrest of former Gen Suarez Mason in the United States," the newspaper states in its front-page article. The newspaper adds that "it is needless to say that it was impossible to confirm this report but obviously the issue was discussed last weekend in Olivos between the head of state and U.S. Ambassador to Argentina Frank Ortiz."

The newspaper concludes by stating: "It is not known for sure whether Dr Alfonsin informed Frank Ortiz about the situation that will reportedly arise if Suarez Mason is in Miami and if he is arrested, or whether the case was discussed."

Spokesman Denies Report

PY301626 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1543 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Oct (TELAM) -- Presidential Spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez this afternoon flatly denied that President Rual Alfonsin will refer to the arrest of cashiered General Guillermo Suarez Mason during the speech he is to give tonight.

Lopez made this remark when questioned by the press and he termed absurd the report that was published in a newspaper in southern Buenos Aires Province. The report was picked up by other metropolitan media.

Ministry Unaware of Arrest

PY301805 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Oct 85

[By reporter Jorge Abasolo from the Defense Ministry]

[Text] The Defense Ministry has denied that it is aware of a report allegedly stating that former General Guillermo Suarez Mason has been arrested in the United States by the police. This report was published in today's issue of the Bahia Blanca newspaper LA NUEVA PROVINCIA, implying that it originated from official sources. The denial by the Defense Ministry implies -- although not explicitly -- a denial of Suarez Mason's arrest.

The report published in LA NUEVA PROVINCIA included a second supposition, namely that the arrest was to be announced by the president of the republic over a radio and television network, a conjecture [words indistinct].

THREE ARMY OFFICERS ACCEPT SELF-CONFINEMENT

PY302157 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2010 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Oct (NA) -- It was today learned from military sources and then confirmed by a Defense Ministry spokesman that the three active active-duty officers whose arrests were ordered by the executive branch, Colonel Pascual Guerrieri, Major Jose Granada, and Captain Leopoldo Cao, have been "self-confined" in the Army Logistical Command to prevent them from being linked to any terrorist act. This unusual situation affecting the three officers is the result of a decision they made by themselves and following a request for authorization from their superiors to remain in the Logistical Command despite a court decision releasing them.

It has been learned that the three officers are taken to work every day by Army personnel and then returned to the Logistical Command on Cabildo at Bullrich Street in this capital. This information was learned from military sources and then confirmed by a Defense Ministry spokesman. However, the situation concerning the retired officers is not known. Apparently they are in their homes.

The retired officers whose arrests were ordered by the executive branch are Colonel Alejandro Arias Duval, Captain Osvaldo Antinori, and refugee General Guillermo Suarez Mason.

Colonel Pascual Guerrieri is normally carrying out his duties in the Libertador Building, Army Headquarters. The other two officers also are performing their daily duties.

DETAINEE DECLARES HIMSELF 'POLITICAL PRISONER'

PY302055 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1818 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 29 Oct (NA) -- Journalist Horacio Daniel Rodriguez today declared himself "the first political prisoner of this democracy," and pointed out that, "according to the judges who have heard" his case, "from a legal viewpoint" he has become "the first kidnapped person." The executive branch, through Decree 2070, has charged Rodriguez with involvement in the disruption of public order in Argentina.

The journalist said that "it is necessary to identify those who have actually placed the bombs, instead of arresting someone whose only action was to publish articles for the sole purpose of demanding that the facts be clarified. I am unfortunate enough to be the first political prisoner of this democracy, and according to the judges who have heard the case, from a legal viewpoint I have been kidnapped," he stated.

Asked about his allegedly destabilizing activities, he replied: "I am still waiting to see the evidence, because no proof has thus far been submitted. Meanwhile, I am the target of a smear campaign being orchestrated by Minister Troccoli and the mass media." Asked about his links to or friendship with the other defendants, Rodriguez replied that "I know some of them, like Suarez Mason, only by name, while the first time I ever saw the others, particularly the military men, was in court."

Talking to Radio Continental reporters, Rodriguez referred to a statement by Justicialist Deputy Jose Luis Manzano, who said that President Alfonsin made a mistake because he was incompetently advised by his ministers. "According to this criterion, the president has a disability. But I am sure he does not," Rodriguez remarked. In this regard, he stressed that "the government must end all the actions that restrict freedom and hinder coexistence."

JUDGE ORDERS GOVERNMENT NOT TO ARREST OFFICER

PY310222 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Oct (TELAM) -- Trial Judge Rodolfo Ricotta Denby tonight upheld a preventive habeas corpus petition filed by lawyer Jose Nicasio Dibur on behalf of Captain Leopoldo Cao. The judge has issued a written order to the Interior Ministry to refrain from restricting Capt Cao's freedom. Judge Ricotta issued the writ of habeas corpus despite the executive branch's contention that he should not do so because a writ of habeas corpus that had been issued earlier by trial Judge Luis Enrique Velazco was revoked by the Sixth Appellate Criminal Court.

Judge Ricotta will also decide tomorrow on a preventive habeas corpus petition filed on behalf of Major Jorge Horacio Granada.

Second Decision Overturned

PY301938 Beunos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1855 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Oct (TELAM) -- The Third Appellate Court this afternoon revoked a decision by trial Judge Rodolfo Ricotta whereby he granted a preventive writ of habeas corpus in favor of journalist Horacio Daniel Rodriguez. Rodriguez is among 12 people charged by the executive branch in Decree 2070, which was issued immediately upon the imposition of the state of siege.

PERONISTS CALL FOR SPECIAL CONGRESSIONAL SESSION

PY310227 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2150 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Oct (NA) -- The bloc of deputies of the Justicialist Party Renewal faction today asked bloc president Juan Carlos Pugliese to call for a special congressional session on 1 November. The bloc also condemned the wave of attacks and endorsed the state of siege.

The request was endorsed by the Renewal faction Senate bloc, which is headed by Humberto Martiarena, by Metropolitan Justicialist Council President Carlos Grosso, and by Antonio Cafiero, the first candidate for a seat in the Chamber of Deputies of the Buenos Aires FREJUDEPA [expansion unkown].

This afternoon Justicialist Party Renewal faction deputies hosted a press conference that was attended by Jose Luis Manzano, Diego Guelar, Roberto Garcia, Hector Maya, Jose Fappiano, and Antonio Cafiero, who invited the lawmakers to attend a rally the Renewal faction will stage on 31 October in Plaza de Mayo. Manzano, who gave reporters a copy of a document drawn up by his bloc, said that Congress should be called for a special session on 1 November "to show the pluralistic support from all the forces that want to join" the struggle "against the groups of misguided people." He said he hopes "all of us will unite against the masters of terrorism." Manzano justified his request on the grounds that "there will be no political activities on 1 November." He stressed that "we shall be contenders on 3 November, but on 4 November all of us will be on the same side." He added that "the Radical Party bloc has not yet answered" his bloc's request. For his part, Guelar reported that on 25 October he gave a copy of the document to Cesar Jaroslavsky, and today he will give another to Pugliese.

In the document, it is stated that it is necessary to call upon "all political sectors and organizations to join us, so that once the electoral campaign is over, we can show the Argentine people they can cast their ballots without any kind of pressure, without taking into account false alternatives, and without harboring any doubts as to our unanimous repudiation of violence." It is also stated that "all social and political organizations are strongly committed to defending democracy."

The document condemns the groups of people who have been cast away by society, who have stepped up their destabilizing terrorist actions in an attempt to hinder democratic coexistence, and who "have shown their disregard for the majority with their criminal methods and their totalitarian ideology."

For his part, Cafiero said that the Renewal faction has "points of agreement" with the Justicialist deputies, and reiterated a call to stage a "march in rejection of violence." He stressed that "the right to defend democracy is not the exclusive property of anyone, not even of the president of the Republic." He invited the Justicialist lawmakers who support the Renewal faction to attend a rally that will be staged in the Plaza de Mayo.

At the same time, Carlos Grosso, who will run for a seat in the Chamber of Deputies, also endorsed the document.

An authorized spokesman for the Humberto Martiarena-led bloc of Peronist senators has told NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that the bloc will support the request to call for a special congressional session.

UCD DEPUTY CRITICIZES ARREST DECREE

PY302223 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2135 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Oct (DYN) -- National Deputy Alvaro Alsogaray, UCD [Democratic Centrist Union], today reaffirmed his opposition to the executive branch decree ordering the arrest of 12 persons charged with anticonstitutional activities, and he accused the government of allowing those responsible for the wave of terrorist actions to operate with total impunity. Alsogaray justified his position by recalling that the Law on National Defense excludes the participation of the Armed Forces in the case of "an international subversive war."

Deputy Alsogaray made these remarks during today's "Neuvo Aire" program, which the state-owned Radio Belgrano broadcasts daily. Asked whether he would accept a "technical" position within some government organization, Alsogaray categorically rejected this possibility, because "the problem we have is political, not technical." He said: "We must be sure about the direction the country wants to take, whether we want to move toward socialism or toward freedom."

Concerning the recent bombings, the deputy said that he did not know who the perpetrators were and indicated that "the government allows these gangs to operate with growing impunity." He remarked that "we have reached the point that the Law on National Defense excludes the participation of the Armed Forces in the case of an internal subversive war."

Alsogaray criticized the government decree ordering the arrest of 12 persons, saying that "it resolves nothing." He stated his opposition by claiming that "it is based on a nonexistent constitutional provision, and even the names of the accused were the wrong ones."

COMMUNIQUE REPORTS ALFONSIN'S TRIP CANCELLATIONS

PY300126 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0011 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Oct (TELAM) -- In a communique released tonight at Government House, the Public Information Secretariat announced the postponement of the trip President Raul Alfonsin was scheduled to make next week to Japan and Saudi Arabia. The presidential decision was prompted by the current situation and by the measures the government has been forced to adopt.

The communique states that President Alfonsin regrets the postponement of these state visits he had willingly accepted and, convinced that the friendly governments of Japan and Saudi Arabia will understand the reasons invoked for the suspension, reports he has notified the Japanese and Saudi ambassadors of his decision and conveyed greetings to their respective chiefs of state. The communique states that notifications have also been made through diplomatic channels, that the Argentine chief of state has conveyed his desire to make these visits in the near future, and that he has reiterated his gratitude for the understanding and friendship expressed in the invitations.

These notifications were personally made this afternoon by Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, who met separately with Saudi Ambassador Fu'ad Ahmad Al-Nasir and Japanese Ambassador Senkuro Saiki at the Foreign Ministry.

President Alfonsin was scheduled to visit Saudi Arabia on 9 November and Japan on 12 November.

ARMY INTELLIGENCE SCHOOL BOMBED 30 OCTOBER

PY310254 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0232 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Oct (DYN) -- The Federal Police tonight reported an explosive that shook an extensive area of Palermo district was caused by a bomb planted at the Army Intelligence School located on Dorrego and Baez St., [passage indistinct]. The blast damaged the building, knocking down plaster and shattering windows, but caused no injuries.

MILITARY-GOVERNMENT APARTMENT BUILDING BOMBED

PY301418 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0950 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Oct (NA) -- A bomb exploded early this morning in a building located in this capital's Belgrano District. The building is inhabited by members of the military and government officials. The explosion damaged the building, but there were no casualties.

The bomb exploded at 0232 in the building located at 2460 Aguilar Street. Windows were broken and walls and plaster were damaged. The explosion caused alarm in the area and neighboring buildings, which also suffered some damage. The device was placed in the garage of the 9-story building.

SOLUTIONS SOUGHT TO SLUMP IN TIN PRICES

PY302206 Paris AFP in Spanish 1615 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] La Paz, 30 Oct (AFP) -- It was officially reported in La Paz today that Bolivia will ask the Association of Tin Producing Countries to implement strong measures aimed at preventing the collapse of the price of this mineral. This information was disclosed by the interinstitutional commission charged with evaluating the temporary shutdown of the London Metal Exchange. This commission is made up of representatives of the Foreign Ministry, the Planning Ministry, the Mining Bank, the Association of Medium-Size Miners, the National Mining Chamber, the Federation of Mining Cooperatives, and assorted experts in the field.

The Association of Tin Producing Countries is made up of Bolivia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia. The PRC and Brazil have recently emerged as big producers of tin, and the Bolivian interinstitutional commission has suggested entering into agreements with these countries.

President Victor Paz Estenssoro recently said that the sustained drop in the price of tin, which is currently hovering at around $5 per pound of high purity tin, while Bolivia's production costs have supassed $11 per pound, is disastrous for the country.

It has also been reported that one of the reasons for the crisis is the sale of U.S. tin reserves on the world market. These sales have helped saturate the market and prompted the current price slump.

ANTIDRUG OPERATIONS CONDUCTED IN BENI DEPARTMENT

PY281826 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Report from Trinidad, Beni Department, by Cristina Corrales]

[Text] An intense antidrug trafficking operation is being carried out here in the Beni region by the Mobile Units for Rural Areas [Umopar] and the Bolivian Air Force [FAB]. In a coordinated action with the Interior Ministry, the Umopar and the FAB in the last few days have conducted a series of operations that were not revealed to the public but which were nonetheless reported by the Trinidad authorities to Panamericana. These operations, it was reported, are being carried out on the ranches near Trinidad.

Until now, the antidrug trafficking operations conducted by the Umopar and the FAB have reportedly yielded positive results. This does not mean that the operations are over; they will continue.

The fight against drug trafficking is therefore being confronted in this department with all the strength, efficiency, and seriousness possible despite the scarce resources that the FAB and the Interior Ministry and its Umopar forces have at their disposal.

PRC PREMIER ARRIVES ON 5-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT

PY310107 Paris AFP in Spanish 0016 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Brasilia, 30 Oct (AFP) -- PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang tonight arrived in Brasilia from Bogota on a 5-day official visit to Brazil, the second leg of his Latin American tour. Zhao was welcomed at the Brasilia Military Airport by Brazilian President Jose Sarney, with whom he will meet tomorrow, 31 October, at Planalto Palace (the seat of the Brazilian Government). This is the first visit by a PRC premier to Brazil since the Brazilian Government recognized the Beijing government as the only legal Chinese Government upon severing ties with Taiwan.

PRC TO PURCHASE 3 MILLION TONS OF MINERALS

PY301724 Sao Paul O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Oct 85 p 34

[Text] Jianhua Xu, director of the PRC Minmetals Company (China Metals and Minerals, Inc) yesterday disclosed that this year Brazil is going to export to the PRC approximately 3 million tons of minerals and iron and steel products, including steel, pig iron, iron ore, aluminum, and copper. The company, which has its headquarters in Beijing and branches and offices in several countries, currently is the focal point of PRC dealings with Brazil since it is the first PRC enterprise to establish roots in Latin America.

The branch of the China National Metals and Minerals Import and Exports, which was established in Rio de Janeiro, has been in contact with Sidebras, the National Iron and Steel Company, and other companies in this field, in view of the 1-week visit to Brazil by PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang, which will begin tomorrow. Jianhua Xu stated that Zhao Ziyang's presence "is decisive for opening other channels for the expansion of trade between the two countries and for reaching various trade agreements." Among these agreements, one of the most important ones is the joint venture [preceding term in English] with the Vale do Rio Doce Company for the exploitation of iron ore. Minmetals has already made similar deals in the United States and Japan.. Moreover, it has branches in the aforementioned countries as well as in England, the FRG, Kuwait, and Hong Kong.

Xu said: "We wish to increase commercial relations with Brazil including the sale of PRC products outside the mineral field." This includes offering Brazil agricultural products such as rice and cotton, minerals such as coal and oil -- a total of 45,000 barrels per day of oil has already been offered to Brazil with the possibility of increasing this quantity -- agricultural machinery, and raw material for the manufacturing of medicines, as well as tools and other products.

Minmetals deals in Beijing with more than 1,000 different products and is responsible for about 15 percent of the PRC's overall foreign trade, which amounts to approximately $40 billion. In the PRC interior, the 34 Minmetals branches operate in a relatively independent manner and are even able to make direct sales abroad.

Jianhua Xu disclosed that the company's branch in Brazil -- operated by five individuals, two of them Chinese (himself and the president, Jun Chen) and three Brazilian citizens -- hopes to increase its activities after its official inauguration scheduled for 28 November. In addition to the deals with Brazil, the company takes care of the PRC's commercial interests in other countries of the continent, especially in Argentina. A delegation headed by the president of Minmetals headquarters in Beijing, Wang Yan, and representatives of the company's branches in the United States, Japan, and Hong Kong will attend the inauguration of the Brazilian branch.

RELATIONS, PLANS FOR AGREEMENTS WITH PRC REVIEWED

PY301250 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0210 GMT 30 Oct 85

[By Francisco Roque Bacarreza]

[Text] Brasilia, 29 Oct (EFE) -- Official sources in Brasilia have told EFE in confidence that Brazil will give priority to its relations with the PRC before going ahead with its plan to resume diplomatic relations with Cuba. This information was leaked the day before PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang is expected to arrive in this country. Zhao will carry out an official visit between 30 October and 5 November within the framework of a four-nation Latin American tour.

The importance that Brazil is assigning Zhao's visit was reflected today in President Jose Sarney's decision to personally meet the Chinese visitor at the airport, this breaking the very strict Brazilian protocol.

Sources consulted by EFE have explained that Brazil and the PRC will try to make the two most developed economies of the so-called Third World complement each other. The plans that are to be developed with the PRC include nuclear cooperation, cultural cooperation and the development of space experiments. These plans have been given a higher priority than the resuming of diplomatic relations with Havana.

Brazil broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba in 1964, accusing it of interfering in Brazil's internal affairs. According to Planalto Palace (Government House) sources, relations with Cuba will be resumed in the near future.

Brazilian-Chinese working groups are carefully drafting the agreements that Zhao Ziyang and Brazilian Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal will sign before the end of the week. The natural expansion of bilateral trade through the interesting modus operandi of barter and aerospatial and military cooperation are among the important agreements that are to be signed. Other indications of the evident bilateral interest in strengthening ties is to be found in the opening of a PRC consulate in Sao Paulo and a Brazilian consulate in Shanghai, in addition to the naming of cultural attaches.

Trade statistics indicate that Brazil is the PRC's major Latin American customer. Brazil and the PRC established diplomatic relations in August 1974 and during these 11 years, bilateral trade has had an accelerated growth. In 1974, bilateral trade amounted to $818,426,000, and between January and August 1984 it amounted to $508,303,000, a 105.3 percent increase when compared with the same period in 1984.

Within the field of military strategy, the Chinese are interested in the progress of Brazil's aeronautics sector, armored land vehicles, and missile launchers, while Brazil is interested in aerospace cooperation and scientific and technological progress.

Diplomatic observers in Brasilia believe that if agreements being secretly drafted are implemented, then the two largest nations in the developing world will implement a period of cooperation which has no precedent, and which goes above and beyond ideological frontiers.

Sarney will meet with Zhao on 31 October and 1 November. He will also meet with State Council member Chen Muhua, one of the few women members of the PRC's leadership, who will sign bilateral agreements with her Brazilian colleague [as received], Olava Setubal.

Zhao is visiting Colombia, Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela. The Chinese entourage is expected in Brasilia on the night of 30 October.

BANK PRESIDENT ON PLANS TO NEGOTIATE DEBT

PY250135 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Central Bank President Fernao Bracher today said Brazil is prepared to negotiate the foreign debt with or without IMF approval. Bracher confirmed that he will travel to New York in late November to hold another round of talks with the advisory committee of the creditor banks.

GOVERNMENT TO OPPOSE CONGRESSIONAL 'REBELS'

PY301157 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] From now on, there will be new guidelines for congressional-government negotiations; they will be based on the theory of an eye for an eye. This new decision was discussed and studied during the meeting of the political council, which concluded that from now on the government will only help those legislators who support it. To facilitate the enforcement of the measure, President Sarney has ordered a survey to determine who is with him and who is against him. On the basis of the conclusions of this survey, any help to rebel legislators will be curtailed.

Even before the survey has been taken, some of these rebel legislators have already expressed their views in this regard. Late yesterday afternoon, Deputy Mario Frota resigned the deputy leadership of the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] because he disagrees with the government decision which he says is nothing more than blackmail. Joao Gilberto, PMDB deputy for Rio Grande do Sul, also sumitted his resignation and announced that he will withdraw from the constituent model imposed by the government.

Moreover, Walter Guimaraes, PMDB deputy from Parana State, strongly criticized PMDB leadership for being directly responsible for all the present party disagreements, PMDB leader Deputy Pimenta da Vega answered criticisms by noting that some legislators resort to two kinds of rhetoric: one opposing the government when it is convenient and another supporting the government when that comes in handy. He also said that in addition to legislators, all those rebels in high government posts will have to hear what the government has to say from now on. If they criticize government or oppose it at a specific time,they will pay a high price for doing so.

LAND OWNERSHIP CLASHES IN MARANHAO, PARA STATES

PY291712 Paris AFP in Spanish 1142 GMT 28 Oct 85

[By Alberto Carbone]

[Text] Brasilia, 28 Oct (AFP) -- The struggle over land in Brazil has turned into a bloodbath in which at least 150 people, mostly poor peasants, have died this year. Press media do not hesitate to state that an agrarian civil war is taking place in Brazil. Ninety people have died since January 1985 in just the northern states of Maranhao and Para. These and other figures are included in a document drawn up by the Agrarian Reform and Development Ministry [as received]. The most affected region is between the Araguaia and Tocantins Rivers, in southern Para and Maranhao States and northern Goias State.

At a time when the violence is terrifying the ranchers, Parana State Industry and Commerce Secretary Francisco Simeao Rodrigues Neto has announced that he is donating a large 57,000-hectare estate he owns in Maranhao to the agrarian reform program. This estate was the scene of the killing of 22 poor peasants, although Rodrigues Neto has denied this. True or not, the report led to the lynching of the estate's foreman by 80 peasants. A correspondent of the newspaper O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO who toured the region has stated that the foreman's death was decided at a quasi-summary trial.

In Para State, the rate being paid to gunmen to kill peasants occupying land owned by ranchers is about $40, the equivalent of the minimum wage. The ranchers pay a little more for the killing of a peasant with leadership traits. The rates vary according to the efficiency of the gunmen. The least fit barely make enough money to make a weekend purchase in a supermarket. The gunmen have the same socioeconomic background as their victims; they are or were landless peasants. The most renowned family of agrarian gunmen live in Imperatriz, Maranhao State. All their members are professional killers.

The expulsion of peasants squatting on estates without killing them is called "cleaning up."

On 10 October President Jose Sarney decreed an agrarian reform program designed to distribute 130 million hectares of unproductive land among 1.4 million families. The Sarney program has no revolutionary overtones, but seeks to take capitalism to the countryside, creating small landowners.

Justice Minister Fernando Lyra has explained that opposition to agrarian reform stems from reactionaries who oppose any modernization.

Brazil possesses a total of 850 million hectares of land, of which 567 million are productive but not under production. Out of those 567 million hectares, 409 million belong to estates. Half of these estates are unworked. Ten million peasant families have no land whatsoever, either to cultivate or to live on.

FRG MINISTER NOTES JOINT ANTIDRUG EFFORT

PY260717 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Brazil and the FRG are joining forces in the struggle against drug trafficking. A meeting was held today at the Justice Ministry between Brazilian authorities and members of the entourage of FRG Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann, who is visiting Brazil. Joint actions in the struggle against the production, distribution, and consumption of narcotics were discussed.

The Germans want to assist the Brazilian police in a project to train dogs to detect drug traffickers at the airports. In addition, the two nations will exchange information on this matter. The FRG will also cooperate with Brazil in the implementation of projects to protect the environment. This information was revealed by Minister Friedrich Zimmermann after he meet with Urban Development and Environment Minister Flavio Peixoto.

ARRESTED LABOR LEADERS BEGIN HUNGER STRIKE

PY310212 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2200 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Excerpts] The six labor and neighborhood leaders arrested on the orders of trial Judge Sergio Valenzuela Patino at 1000 today began an indefinite hunger strike in the annex of the Capuchinos prison where they are being held. These leaders started their hunger strike in protest over what they consider an arbitrary and unfair trial in which they are being charged with crimes they never committed. The six prisoners, who have spent 34 days behind bars, have issued a declaration stating the reasons for their decision. This declaration is signed by Rodolfo Seguel, Manuel Bustos, Arturo Martinez, Jose Ruiz Di Giorgio, Eduardo Valencia, and Mario Araneda.

VALPARAISO, SAN ANTONIO DOCKWORKERS STRIKE

PY301502 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1346 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 30 Oct (EFE) -- Two Chilean ports, Valparaiso and San Antonio, have been paralyzed because dockworkers went on strike today. The dockworkers of Valparaiso, the country's most important port, located on the Pacific Ocean 120 km from Santiago, today began a strike which was organized by the 17 unions that represent them. The stevedores agreed to strike during a meeting last weekend after businessmen of the Maritime Chamber did not agree to their salary demands.

It has been reported from San Antonio, Santiago's port of access, that that port's dockworkers have expressed support for demands made by the Valparaiso Stevedores. The San Antonio dockworkers today also agreed to go on strike in order to prevent vessels in the port of Valparaiso from being rerouted to San Antonio.

RADICAL DENIES STATEMENT ON BOLIVIA SEA OUTLET

PY302135 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Excerpt] (Alcalabus) Coronel, a member of the Radical Party, has denied press reports on a statement Anselmo Sule made at the Bolivian Congress. According to the press reports, Anselmo Sule, vice president of the Radical Party abroad and vice president of the Socialist International, delivered a speech at the Bolivian Congress in which he reportedly said that Bolivia should have an outlet to the sea. Coronel, on behalf of the Radical Party, denied the press reports.

[Begin recording] We would like to deny, emphatically and categorically, that Anselmo Sule made such a statement. He went to Bolivia at the invitation of the president of the Chamber of Deputies. He met with the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Relations Committee, the leaders of Bolivian political parties, and with the president. Anselmo Sule did not discuss that issue during any of the three meetings, because he was not invited for that purpose. [end recording]

Coronel added that Anselmo Sule only referred to the Bolivian sea outlet problem during a meeting with the press.

PRC PREMIER SIGNS AGREEMENTS, ENDS VISIT

PA310014 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang ends his visit to the country today. He signed four agreements with the Colombian Government involving the financing of power stations, purchasing coffee, cocoa, and sugar from Colombia, and the promoting of reciprocal trade.

Before leaving for Brazil, the Chinese premier disavowed guerrilla movements operating in the name of Maoism; he said that his country does not finance this type of organization.

The PRC also plans to grant technical assistance to train doctors in acupuncture.

ZIPAQUIRA RESIDENTS OCCUPY PANAMANIAN EMBASSY

PA301947 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1929 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Bogota, 30 Oct (EFE) -- Fifty inhabitants of the city of Zipaquira, 45 km north of Bogota, peacefully occupied the Panamanian Embassy in the Colombian capital today. This information was supplied to EFE by a spokesman for the occupiers, who indicated that they will remain in the embassy until the government orders the demilitarization of the Bolivar 83 neighborhood in Zipaquira.

We demand respect for the lives and tranquillity of the inhabitants and that the military forces leave the neighborhood, the spokesman said. Following an attack by the 19 April Movement (M-19) against Army Commander General Rafael Samudio Molina, several homes were raided and inhabitants were arrested 1 week ago in the Bolivar 83 sector, where an M-19 political office had operated prior to abandoning the 1984 truce on 21 June.

An embassy spokesman consulted via telephone affirmed that Ambassador Jorge Eduardo Ritter is talking with the occupiers to get them to vacate the building, but he did not indicate whether the occupiers were M-19 members or if they were armed.

COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER VICTIM OF ATTACK

PA302349 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Today another member of the Communist Party Central Committee was the victim of an attack. Alvaro Vasquez was wounded by machinegun fire as he was leaving his residence with his wife. The Communist leader's condition is not serious. He is the third leader of that party to have been attacked this year.

POLITICAL VIOLENCE NOTED; PEACE CAMPAIGN PLANNED

PA290207 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] This is a report on actions of political violence that have taken place in the country during the past 8 days. On Saturday, 19 October, at 0200, several subversive groups attacked the Cisneros Battalion installations in Armenia with all kinds of modern weapons. As a result, 8 persons were killed and 12 wounded. On the same day, at 0900, in Curulao, Antioquia, near the municipality of Turbo, eight persons were shot to death at an ice cream parlor.

On Sunday, 20 October, the town of Pitayo, Cauca, was attacked by a subversive group. Six Indians, including the council mayor, were killed. On the same day an agronomist and a merchant were kidnapped, the former in La Dorada and the latter in Ocana.

On Tuesday, 22 October, a subversive group murdered a priest in Fortul, Arauca, inflicting 11 gunshot wounds. On the same day, 120 subversives from various groups attacked the municipality of Totoro, Cauca. Four guerrillas and one civilian were killed, and one policeman was seriously wounded. Also on 22 October, a policeman was murdered in Mata Tigres, a neighborhood south of Bogota.

On Wednesday, 23 October at 0730, Army Commander Rafael Samudio Molina was almost murdered by a terrorist commando. The general miraculously survived the attack, suffering only three slight wounds. His bodyguard, an Army NCO, was also wounded.

On Thursday, 24 October, two Armed Forces NCO's and one soldier were wounded in Arauca. Two rebels were killed when the Army pursued the murderers of priest Raul de Jesus Cuervo.

On Friday, 25 October, in (El Carareopon), 100 guerrillas publicly executed a dissident and forcibly installed a political commando in the region.

On Saturday, 26 October, three policeman were wounded in an attack by subversives in Yumbo. Two rebels were killed in the action.

Colombia is experiencing a bloodbath. It is necessary for all Colombians of good will to make a statement against violence and in favor of peace. This newscast today announces its initiative to sponsor, on a date that will soon be announced, a peace campaign so that millions of Colombians can say no to violence and yes to peace.

We understand that for peace to stop being an abstract idea, it cannot be separated from the development of social justice. We invite all the social communications media, the various religious sects, the labor unions, popular associations, and all citizens to participate. On future newscasts we will report the crimes, murders, and assaults that are dramatically bathing Colombia in blood. We will do this not to alarm the citizens, but so that they will become aware and contribute to the establishment of a spirit of peace and cooperation and so that the bloodbath Colombia is experiencing will abate and some day end.

BRIEFS

OFFICIAL ARRESTED WITH COCAINE -- The 600 kg of cocaine that had been reported lost from the Uribia municipal office in La Guajira have been found in the possession of Carlos Castro, chief of the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] unit at Maicao, who was arrested along with five other people. An alderman of the Uribia council is still being sought. Only 500 kg of cocaine were recovered. [Summary] [Bogota Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Oct 85 PA]

OFFICIALS, GOVERNMENT REACT TO U.S. DEBT DECISION

Garcia Terms Decision 'Reprisal'

PY302104 Paris AFP in Spanish 2042 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Lima, 30 Oct (AFP) -- President Alan Garcia today described as a reprisal the U.S. decision to classify the overdue Peruvian debt in the allocated transfer risk reserve category. While dedicating a fisheries complex in the port of Callao, Garcia said: We are now enduring reprisals for having adopted a nationalist position, but the Peruvian people will remain alert because our enemies are everywhere.

Various diplomatic and political personalities also have commented on the U.S. decision.

Reiterates Position

PY310221 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0021 GMT 31 Oct 85

[By Marison Marin]

[Excerpts] Lima, 30 Oct EFE -- The reclassification of the Peruvian foreign debt as value impaired by U.S. banking regulators today unleashed conflicting reactions here. For local financial circles, the reclassification adds a new element of uncertainty, while for political circles it is an act of aggression against Peru by the United States.

The first reaction by President Alan Garcia was to tell a group of workers he addressed that Peru will not fall on its knees, because the true value impaired is the international capitalist system, which has reached an extreme situation. President Garcia reiterated that no more than 10 percent of the value of Peruvian exports will be assigned to servicing the country's foreign debt. He then added that if they pay us more for our fish meal, our copper, and our silver, we will pay them more. President Garcia then said that they attach the label of value impaired to countries they consider poor payers, but I was not elected to pay an unjust debt, but to guarantee development. The president made the speech at the reopening of a fish meal factory.

The Peruvian debt stands at $14 billion and the expected value of exports this year is $3.2 billion, which means that Peru will pay no more than $320 million to its creditors.

In Congress, a group of APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] deputies has introduced a motion to condemn the policy of the IMF and the banks for being imperialistic.

Wagner Says Decision 'Expected'

PY301752 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Allan Wagner has noted that the U.S. decision should not come as a surprise and he added that President Alan Garcia clearly explained Peru's position in this regard during his speech at the United Nations.

[Begin Wagner recording] I have been informed that this morning's issue of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL carries an article that reports that the United States has reportedly qualified Peru as a high-risk credit country.

The economy minister has already noted that this decision was expected and moreover, in his message to the United Nations, President Alan Garcia noted that all credits that were granted to Peru were high-risk credit. Therefore, we are not surprised by the U.S. decision since it bases its decision on such facts as whether the country in question has any agreements with the IMF and whether it is complying with its payments to creditor institutions.

Just as was announced by President Garcia in his inaugural speech, Peru's position on this matter is quite clear. President Garcia noted that Peru will allot no more than 10 percent of its export income to pay its foreign debt in the next 12 months. He also announced that Peru will not resort to the IMF to reach agreements with its creditors. Therefore, if these decisions are not in keeping with procedures established by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board and if as a result of them, this institution has declared Peru a high-risk credit country, as is reported by THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, we should not be surprised. Moreover, this will not result in a financial disaster since like other private financial institutions, U.S. banks have accumulated reserves for those pending credits with Peru. Therefore, we do not believe this will result in any additional problems. I am sure the president and the economy minister, who are responsible for this sector, will be able to make the necessary decisions so that Peru may implement the [word indistinct] model it has decided to enforce. [end recording]

Freeze on Dollar Accounts Extended

PY301837 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] The government tonight decided to extend until 30 April 1986 the freeze on the reimbursement in dollars of foreign currency bank certificates and the withdrawal of foreign currency in bank deposits owned by Peruvians. An Economy Ministry communique notes that in view of the progress achieved by the economic program in force, the government had planned to lift the freeze on the reimbursement of bank certificates and on the withdrawal of dollar deposits. However, in view of the situation that will result from the U.S. decision to declare Peru a high credit risk country, it is imperative to safeguard the integrity of the national currency. The communique adds that in view of this, the government will continue to enforce the partial freeze on bank certificates until April 1986 so as to guarantee that foreign currency is properly used in productive areas and in urgent situations.

Further Reaction

PY302335 Paris AFP in Spanish 2018 GMT 30 Oct 85

[By Jose Calmet]

[Text] Lima, 30 Oct (AFP) -- Not surprisingly but drastically, Peru has reacted against foreign oil companies by freezing until April dollar-denominated bank deposit certificates in order to protect its international reserves after the United States placed the overdue Peruvian foreign debt in the category of an allocated transfer risk reserve, the Lima government announced today.

The decision taken in Washington did not cause much concern in Peruvian governmental and financial circles, although Peru is now the third country, after Bolivia and Nicaragua, whose unpaid foreign debt has been so classified.

Foreign Minister Allan Wagner has reiterated that Peru will maintain its position of apportioning no more than 10 percent of the value of its exports to servicing its foreign debt, and that it has set aside the IMF to negotiate with its creditors directly.

Financial circles consider the ultimatum to the U.S. companies Belco Petroleum, Occidental Petroleum, and Oxy-Bridas, which takes effect today, to reinvest $626,859,000 in oil exploration over the next 4 years as the government's reaction to defend Peruvian monetary reserves. Mines and Energy Minister Wilfredo Huayta last night warned that the concessions to the three U.S. oil companies will be canceled if they resist making the reinvestments and that the state company Petroperu will take over their operations. Backed by a law on tax incentives for investments in new oil explorations, the government has accused the three U.S. companies of not having made those investments in recent years. According to some sources, the interpretation of that law is very complex and that, in fact, what the government is trying to do is force these companies over the next 4 years to invest in Peru a large portion of the profits they annually remit abroad, for a total of $516 million.

The lower credit rating basically will affect the medium- and long-term Peruvian debt with the closure of new credit sources to this country, whose nationalist president, Alan Garcia, had determined when he assumed power 3 months ago that the necessary measures foreseeing this contingence by adopted.

Also for the purpose of defending the country's monetary reserves, the Economy and Finance Ministry had imposed a 6-month freeze on an estimated $1.5 billion in dollar savings and dollar-denominated despoit certificates in Peruvian banks. In fact, this freeze has been in effect since last August and it was to be lifted at the end of this month. An official communique explains that it is imperative to protect the country's foreign reserves and to guarantee their use for unpostponable and productive expenditures. The communique adds that foreign reserves will only be released for importing goods and services productive in nature.

The Peruvian foreign debt stands at $14 billion and the overdue interest that caused the credit rating to be downgraded stands at approximately $280 million. Loans from U.S. banks total $2.5 billion.

Financial sources have said that to protect its foreign reserves, Peru has been closing accounts in U.S. banks since 1984, transferring capital to European institutions, mainly in France and Switzerland.

Prime Minister and Economy Minister Luis Alva Castro has said that the lower credit rating will not affect the short-term debt, because this is being normally serviced as it falls due. The foreign trade credit lines currently fluctuate between $200 and $300 million.

As for the payment of the foreign debt deferred until 1986, which according to financial circles stands at $2.115 billion, Peru will apportion only some $335 million for servicing it, that is, 10 percent of expected exports.

The Peruvian Government has said that payment priorities are established in the order of multilateral organizations, governments, and private creditor banks.

While Foreign Minister Allan Wagner has said that the downgrading of Peru's credit rating will not cause a collapse, Central Bank President Richard Webb has affirmed that there is no reason for much concern because the country's gross foreign reserves now stand at about $2 billion. Webb added that the only inconvenience is that Peru has now joined a not too select group of countries unable to service their debt.

REPUBLICAN GUARD COMMANDER CONFIRMED IN POST

PY301703 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Interior Minister Abel Salinas tonight announced that in keeping with the police force reorganization program, 10 generals and 13 colonels of the Republican Guard have been dismissed. He noted that Republican Guard Commander Julio Nino Rios has been confirmed in his post.

[Begin Salinas recording] In keeping with the reorganization program of the police force, and in keeping with the powers granted to the executive branch through a law issued by Congress, the government has decided to retire 10 Republican Guard generals and 13 Republican Guard colonels. As on previous occasions, we clearly note that this is being done to reorganize and debureaucratize this institution, which like other institutions has grown to exaggerated proportions in relation to the activities it must carry out. We want to note that just as in the case of the Civil Guard and the Peruvian Investigative Police, the decision issued by the reorganizing committee is the result of consultations with the Republican Guard command. This is why Republican Guard Commander Nino Rios is present at this time. It must also be noted that General Nino Rios has been confirmed in his post as commander of the Republic Guard. [end recording]

SENATOR SAYS VIOLENCE, ASSASSINATIONS TO CONTINUE

PY302144 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1925 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Lima, 29 Oct (EFE) -- Armando Villanueva, secretary general of the ruling party, the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance, stated here today that violence will continue in Peru and that there will be brutal assassinations such as the murders of three policemen yesterday and of peasants. Villanueva considered, however, as a sign of progress the fact that subversives who had participated in violence are now giving up their weapons, although that should not prompt exaggerated optimism. Villanueva, who is also a senator, was referring to the recent surrender of some Shining Path members to Peruvian Army units. Some of them have even been received at Government Palace by President Alan Garcia.

Villanueva was speaking today at a seminar entitled "Prospects for Cooperation Between the EEC and the Andean Pact" in the Andean Pact office in Lima. Villanueva asked for the strengthening of relations between the Andean Pact and the EEC, and for finding new elements that will contribute to strengthening these relations, taking into account the deterioration of the Andean Pact over the past few years. The Peruvian senator considered as a favorable sign the existence of democratic governments in the Andean Pact, and added that factors that may contribute to peace in Latin American must be strengthened. He stated that some of the money being spent on arms should be channeled to development.

REPORTAGE ON TERRORIST ATTACKS, BOMBINGS

PY291248 [Editorial Report] Paris AFP and Buenos Aires TELAM on 28 October reported on several recent terrorist incidents in Peru.

Paris AFP in Spanish at 2145 GMT on 28 October carries a report stating that "the Civil Guard reported this afternoon that a Peruvian policeman had been killed and another seriously wounded by a burst of submachine gun fire from five alleged terrorists in a crowded neighborhood of Lima today."

Paris AFP in Spanish at 1611 GMT on 28 October carries a report saying that "a police spokesman today reported that two terrorists were killed and two other terrorists and a policeman were wounded during an armed clash this morning in the Victoria District of the city of Chiclayo, 752 km north of Lima." It goes on to say that "according to the same source, a policeman and a woman street vendor were slightly wounded last night when three dynamite bombs exploded in the Plaza de Armas in Chiclayo near the residence of the departmental prefect." The AFP report adds: "In Lima, a powerful bomb exploded in front of a nine-story building in the Jesus Maria District, where EL OBSERVADOR newspaper was housed more than a year ago. The bomb, which was placed there by alleged terrorists, damaged the windows of the building and wounded one individual."

Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 1520 GMT on 28 October carries a report stating that "a powerful bomb that exploded on Pershing Avenue in downtown Lima damaged the structure of a 12-story building where the newspaper VULCANO, which is no longer published, was located 2 years ago. The police reported that the explosion damaged cars parked nearby and wounded several persons." The report ends by saying that "no organization has claimed responsibility for the explosion that took place this morning."

Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 1924 GMT on 28 October carries a report which states that an attack "on a military bus that normally transports more than 100 Navy personnel to work failed when the bus was delayed for some minutes due to a mechanical problem. The explosion slightly injured three passersby and damaged several cars that were parked nearby. A police report this afternoon revealed that the explosion, caused by a powerful dynamite bomb, took place at 1205 GMT and was set off by a clock mechanism. The bomb was placed at the intersection where the bus transporting the Navy officers passes daily at that time on their way from Lima to the port of Callao."

CIVIL GUARD RESCUES PEASANTS FROM TERRORISTS

PY281307 Paris AFP in Spanish 0246 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] Lima 27 Oct (AFP) -- It was officially announced here today that 64 peasants -- 21 men and 43 women -- have been rescued from Shining Path units by members of the Civil Guard in Corazon Pampa, Ayacucho, in Peru's southern Andean region.

In a communique issued here, the Armed Forces Joint Command stated that on 25 October members of the Civil Guard -- which is under the Army -- rescued the aforementioned persons from units of the subversive Shining Path group. The rescued persons were taken to the Llogchegua infantry base, which is responsible for countersubversion.

The communique goes on to point out that three guerrilla leaders decided to hand themselves over to members of the mentioned base, but gives no information on their identity. It states that a large quantity of subversive propaganda, homemade hand grenades, and three carbines were seized from the rescued peasants and the guerrilla leaders.

The communique ends by stating that the security forces are protecting the group of subversive elements and providing them with necessary facilities until a decision is made on their return to work and until those who are found guilty of crimes are placed at the disposal of the competent authorities.

This is the second time, after more than 5 years of activities by the Andean guerrilla group, that such a large group of Shining Path members have handed themselves over or were rescued. Only 5 days ago, 174 alleged members of the Shining Path group -- including guerrillas, women, and children -- surrendered and handed themselves over to the Army in the same convulsed area.

PAPER INTERVIEWS NICARAGUA'S SERGIO RAMIREZ

PY241835 Lima EL DIARIO MARKA in Spanish 13 Oct 85 p 8-9

[Interview with Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez by Carlos Angulo Rivas in Lima -- no date given]

[Excerpts] Rivas: What is your view of the Central American conflict?

Ramirez: There are two aspects to the development of the Central American conflict. One of them is the U.S. interference in Nicaragua and the armed counterrevolution of the Somozist forces which receive direct help from the U.S. Government. This destabilizing situation even reaches Honduras and Costa Rica considering the continuous tense situation on the borders. That is the first aspect, and the second one, of course, is the diplomatic effort carried out by the Contadora Group to establish a framework of negotiation with which to bring peace to Central America. These two aspects are linked by a common factor: U.S. Government intolerance and failure to accept a peaceful and negotiated solution respecting the rights of all the Nicaraguans and to therefore allow room for a long-term arrangement.

Rivas: Is there only military aggression or is there also economic aggression?

Ramirez: It is mainly military aggression which is closely linked with the Nicaraguan economic deterioration due to the war itself. Of course economic aggression can also be felt because of the financial and commercial blockade that is attempting to weaken the material base of the revolution and make the country collapse as part of a military strategy.

Rivas: Some groups or reactionary Latin American governments and their press are questioning the Nicaraguan revolution and the Sandinist Government, mainly accusing it of not allowing freedom of the press in your country and also questioning the last electoral process. What can you say about this?

Ramirez: Yes, freedom of expression is obviously restricted in Nicaragua, mainly regarding military information which affects state security; but this restriction was imposed because of the aggression suffered in the country; this is a natural occurrence in any country that is undergoing a similar situation. Throughout all periods in history, freedom of expression was restricted in the case of war in any country. However, Nicaragua is living through a period of full liberty of expression from whatever point of view one looks at it. This is a democratic achievement of the revolution: the right to inform and to be informed is in full effect in our country. Regarding the elections, the truth is that no sort of elections that we would have carried out would have ever satisfied the United States or its propaganda apparatus. They wish to annul the validity of our elections that legitimize the Nicaraguan Government, which is something they do not desire. Since the elections, the Nicaraguan Government has been recognized and accepted as an elected government by the whole world.

Rivas: You are currently visiting countries that belong to the Lima group. You have already visited Uruguay and Argentina and now you are going to Brazil. What is the position of the governments of these countries?

Ramirez: These governments have a growing understanding of what is going on in Central America; they truly want to cooperate in finding a peaceful solution and they want to support the Contadora Group's negotiations. The Lima group is very important to us, to the extent that the U.S. Government feels that this group is not likely to protect U.S. interests. Therefore, it is trying to introduce a Trojan hourse into the group.

With this in mind the U.S. Government is trying to change the group's power balance, which is currently unfavorable to U.S. interests. All this leads us to believe that the group's efforts are beginning to yield positive results.

Rivas: Are you talking about the expansion of the group and Yankee intervention?

Ramirez: Yes, I am talking about the involvement of Ecuador and the Dominican Republic because neither of these nations has a clear idea of the problem, and it is the United States that wants them in. The United States made this quite shameless proposal through Shultz himself, who after a meeting with the foreign ministers of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica, announced that they had all agreed to ask that Ecuador and the Dominican Republic be admitted to the Lima group.

Rivas: The border security zone is the most important item in the Contadora document, right?

Ramirez: The Contadora document does not actually provide for border security zones. Mainly it calls for the departure of foreign military advisers, the dismantling of any rebel forces against constitutional governments, the shutdown of all foreign military bases, and the termination of all warmongering military maneuvers in Central America.

Rivas: What about the border security zones?

Ramirez: That is something we proposed in connection with the border problems we had with Costa Rica. This proposal has been withdrawn because Costa Rica has not shown any sign of being interested in it.

Rivas: Foreign Minister D'Escoto staged a lengthy fast, which has been described as an insurrection within the church. What is the status of church-government relations over this matter?

Ramirez: The matter you mention as well as the fact that part of the Nicaraguan religious hierarchy shares Reagan's positions creates an atmosphere of tension between the church hierarchy and not only the Nicaraguan Government but also the Nicaraguan people, who are actually fighting to defend the revolution and the country. However, this is not a conflict between the church and the state but between a highly conservative and pro-U.S. sector of the church hierarchy and the revolution.

Rivas: Do you mean that Christian groups actively participate in the revolution?

Ramirez: Yes. What I mean is that most of the Nicaraguan people are Christian and Catholic, and most of the Christians and Catholics are on the side of the revolution while there is a minority that has taken the conservative position.

SANGUINETTI SCORES PROTECTIONISM, SUBSIDIES

PY301650 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 22 Oct 85 p 9

[Excerpts] Complaining that the EC sold to the Soviet Union a consignment of 170,000 tons of meat at prices well below their cost, President Julio Maria Sanguinetti yesterday said we are confronting "an undeclared trade war," which is particularly harmful for the underdeveloped countries.

Sanguinetti reasserted that these protectionist and subsidized policies distort world markets and commercial equilibrium, warning that this could be more dangerous to the democratic regimes than the foreign debt.

Sanguinetti emphasized that Latin America is witnessing a twofold process comprising democratization and, as a counterbalance, a profound crisis marked by indebtedness and an undeclared trade war, which is most apparent in the agricultural sector.

"Depending on the performance of this generation of Latin American men and women, the democratization process will or will not be strengthened," Sanguinetti stated.

President Sanguinetti spoke yesterday during the opening ceremony of the third meeting of the Inter-American Agricultural Board. Delegations from the 29 countries that make up the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation (IICA) are participating in this forum.

The president also emphasized that the important issue the underdeveloped nations must confront concerns the undeclared trade war in which the developed nations subsidize their products, causing noticeable harm to the producing nations.

Sanguinetti said that it is known that "for the EC, a ton of meat costs between $3,200 and $3,300 and it has just sold 170,000 tons to the Soviet Union at a yet undetermined price which, nevertheless, is between $700 and $800, that is, one-fourth its value."

Sanguinetti stated that this is "the real problem now," adding that we are witnessing "an undeclared trade war" whose consequences can be more harmful than those caused by the foreign debt.

"This is the issue. The issue is that one power sells this volume of meat to another power, preventing other nations from simply reaping the natural proceeds of their toil."

Sanguinetti also said that the right of the industrialized countries to subsidize their agricultural and livestock producers is not at stake. "We would not dare to dispute it, but we indeed state that economic skill and the political imagination have not yet come up with a system allowing the developed nations to cope with the needs of their farmers without distorting the markets."

Sanguinetti stated that this money could be used to improve standards of living without distorting world prices.

Sanguinetti added that in his opinion, Europeans are not fully aware of this phenomenon "and they do not realize to what degree their policies inflict harm of this type."

Sanguinetti also stated that this is the knotty point on which will center in this decade the problems concerning the development in our hemisphere "and also the problems concerning our political stability and our overall relationship with the large industrialized areas in the world."

EL DIA VIEWS U.S. BUDGET, SPENDING POLICY

PY301537 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 21 Oct 85 p 6

[Unattributed editorial: "The U.S. Continues Spending"]

[Text] Concerning budgetary policy, the government of Ronald Reagan continues "saying one thing and doing another." In fact, despite increased preaching advocating austerity, a balanced budget, and a fiscal behavior aimed at generating a stable and noninflationary growth, it continues to increase governmental expenditures with the ensuing growth in the budgetary deficit.

The Office of Economic Analysis of the U.S. Department of Commerce has published the results of the third quarter, puzzling the international community by announcing that federal spending grew by a yearly rate of 33.4 percent during that period, after it fell by 0.4 percent in the second quarter, and increased by 0.7 percent in the first quarter of 1985.

In turn, government expenditures, federal and state, grew by a yearly rate of 16.1 percent in the third quarter, after they grew by 3.7 percent in the second quarter, and 3 percent in the first quarter.

If we take into account that the Reagan administration staunchly upholds its position of not increasing taxes, it is easy to imagine the effect this behavior will have on the budget, the funds needed by the Treasury, the capital market, international interest rates, and the possibilities for the recovery of world economies, especially those of the indebted Third World countries.

However, not all the news is bad; in the third quarter, the U.S. economy grew by a yearly rate of 3.3 percent after the lean 0.9 percent recorded in the first quarter and 1.9 percent recorded in the second quarter.

Nevertheless, in seasonally adjusted terms, the gross domestic product has only grown by 1.8 percent over the level recorded in late 1984, far from the 4-percent mark predicted by President Ronald Reagan, which was supposed to support the development of the underdeveloped nations.

BRIEFS

CENSUS REPORT -- According to the results of the nationwide census held on 23 October 1985, Uruguay's population has increased less than 5 percent over the past decade. The State General Directorate of Statistics and Census (DGEC) has reported that a preliminary count puts the country's population at 2,921,798, against 2,788,429 in 1975. The DGEC further reported that of the total population, 1,499,967 are women and 1,421,831 are men. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1456 GMT 26 Oct 85 PY]

GDP DROP -- The Uruguayan gross domestic product dropped 1.3 percent during the first half of this year. The fishing and construction sectors experienced the largest drops, 49.7 and 11.7 percent, respectively. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0414 GMT 26 Oct 85 PY]

FIRMS PARTICIPATING IN HAVANA INTERNATIONAL FAIR

FL291550 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0250 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- To promote the export of chemical products, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, auto parts, and machinery to the Caribbean area, a group of Mexican firms is participating in the Havana International Fair, which began today.

The Mexican Foreign Trade Institute has reported that the export of textiles, motors, bicycles, and food products will also be promoted to obtain a greater share of these markets. The institute added that, in addition to the celebration of the Havana fair, representatives of Mexican firms will meet with their Cuban counterparts from 35 state enterprises related to Cuban foreign trade. The institute added that these meetings open the possibility for coinvestment projects in some productive sectors and for Mexican petroleum industry technology to be transferred to Cuba.

The institute said that despite the fact that in 1970 trade between the two countries was virtually nonexistent, in the last 15 years important progress has been made, and trade between the two countries reached $100 million in 1984. It added that Mexican exports to Cuba grew from $66,000 in 1970 to $81 million in 1984, while imports from Cuba grew from $7,000 in 1970 to $13 million.

Spain, FRG, Japan, England, Argentina, and Colombia will also be present at the Havana fair.

CREDIT EXECUTIVES FORESEE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

FL281824 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0155 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- By year's end Mexico's deficit in the balance of payments abroad will amount to $2.8 billion, the Mexican Association of Credit Executives has asserted. The president of the association, Pablo Cruz Maldonado, added that this does not mean that Mexico is bankrupt, but it does bring about a number of economic problems. The official noted that the country is facing a deficit in cash flow, which translates into not being able to meet its international commitments.

He added that another problem being faced by the untry is the lack of credits to the private sector due to the rise in interest rates, aggravating the credit crisis.

Maldonado demanded stricter measures in public spending, an action which must be taken with or without the intervention of the IMF. These measures should be termed urgent and should be implemented by the Mexican Federal Government as soon as possible because of the country's low liquidity.

PRICE OF ISTHMUS OIL TO INCREASE 1 NOVEMBER

PA310229 Paris AFP in Spanish 0144 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Oct (AFP) -- The price of Mexican petroleum, Isthmus type, will increase by an average of 60 cents, and the Maya type will decrease by 40 cents beginning on 1 November, Pemex announced here tonight.

The agreement to change prices -- which is in fact an increase -- was made by an interministerial committee tasked with monthly reviews on the export price of Mexican crude oil.

PEMEX SELLS BONDS TO PRIVATE JAPANESE BANKS

FL310135 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0130 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Tokyo, 29 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid is convinced that only through negotiation and responsibility and not through confrontation with the international financial community is the foreign debt problem going to be solved, Pemex Director Mario Ramon Beteta has asserted. He said this at a ceremony to formalize the sale of the enterprise's bonds to the private sector amounting to 10 billion yen (approximately $40 million) with a group of Japanese banks, headed, by the Industrial Bank of Japan (IB) and the Bank of Tokyo.

IBJ President Kaneo Nakamura described the transaction as very significant, not only for Mexico but for other countries facing similar economic difficulties. Beteta said Mexico picked Japan to return to the private capital market because, among other things, Japan is the second biggest financial market in the world and offers excellent institutional foundations to invest, and the Japanese Government has been promoting internationalizing the yen and liberalizing financial markets.

AZUCAR ANNOUNCES SUGARCANE PRICE INCREASE

FL251931 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0336 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Sugarcane liquidation price will increase in Mexico to 5,321.37 pesos ($14) during the 1985-86 harvest beginning next November, the Mexican parastatal enterprise Azucar, S.A., announced today. It reported that in setting the liquidation price it considered the government's decision to raise the sugarcane price according to the increase in the wholesale general price index, which this year was 51.75 percent.

Azucar, S.A., indicated that the new sugarcane price is an incentive for sugarcane growers in addition to productivity incentives, which are still in effect, such as advance payments and preliquidations for growers. The national sugarcane growers union is pleased with this product's new price and said a 38-million ton sugarcane production is expected during the next harvest. It added that this production will allow Mexico to contribute 160,000 tons of sugar to trade with the United States, which has been bartering urea for the sugar parastatal enterprise.

NAVY SECRETARIAT REPORTS BORDER OPERATIONS

PA310250 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 26 Oct 85 pp 1, 7

[By Alberto Rocha Cadena]

[Excerpts] The Navy Secretariat has reported that as a result of the country's crisis and the situation in Central America, there is a possibility that groups opposed to the government will carry out actions in our country ranging from civic demonstrations to armed clashes.

Therefore, in the event the Mexican Navy is called on to intervene, "plans have been made for naval operations in sectors of the area of conflict, to control these groups and to restore law and constitutional order."

This operation, called "Fast Action Force," will be carried out by land and sea units and by marines. The number of personnel involved will depend on the circumstances.

According to the Navy Secretariat, the Central American situation is having a negative effect in our southern border region because it is creating social unrest and the proliferation of all sorts of illegal activities. This has forced the Mexican Government to take a number of actions to control the situation.

Meanwhile, the Mexican Foreign Relations Secretariat and the Navy Secretariat are constantly reporting to the Guatemalan Government on the actions they are carrying out on the southern border.

Navy Captain Luis Cotero Bayardini, commander of Section 3 of the Navy General Staff, referred to this situation yesterday during an activities report meeting with the Fisheries and Navy Commissions of the Chamber of Deputies at the Navy Social Club.

Navy Secretary Admiral Miguel Angel Gomez Ortega presided over the meeting, which was also attended by Fisheries Secretary Pedro Ojeda Paullada; high-ranking Navy personnel; Congressman Rafael Garcia Anaya, Navy Commission president; Juan Maldonado Pereda, Fisheries Commission president; and Fidel Herrera Beltran, Chamber of Deputies senior officer.

Capt Cotero Bayardini also read a complete report on the actions by the Navy Secretariat against drug trafficking and illegal fishing during the present administration.

In this respect, he said that the administration has seized 123,174 kg of marijuana; 20,000 marijuana plants, and 434 kg of cocaine. He also reported that the Navy arrested 756 drug traffickers and seized 16 vessels and 1 aircraft from the drug traffickers.

Regarding illegal fishing, Capt Cotero Bayardini said that from 1 January 1983 to the Navy has seized 101,947 tons of seafood, such as fish, shellfish, shrimp, turtle eggs, etc., and has captured 18 vessels engaged in these activities without permission.

Cotero Bayardini also referred to the "Hippopotamus" operation, implemented by the government to relocate the Guatemalan refugees who have taken refuge along Mexico's southern border on the banks of Lacantum River.

He said that the refugees were creating incidents along the border which were a threat to relocations with Guatemala, so the Mexican Government decided to relocate them.

On 28 January Navy units were assigned to take part in transporting the refugees along the Lacantum River, an operation that is still going on.

Regarding the number of refugees who have been relocated, Capt Cotero Bayardini said:

"According to official figures, a total of 16,753 persons have been relocated, but the real figure is approximately 20,000."

All this, he added, has been done without a single injury or incident that could in any way hurt our country's prestige and under the supervision of the international press and the United Nations.

APOSTOLIC NUNCIO ALLEGES ANTICHURCH CAMPAIGN

PA302035 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Oct 85 p 1A

[By Wilfi Jimenez]

[Excerpts] During a harsh sermon denouncing false Christians who sow disunity among Panamanians, Apostolic Nuncio Msgr Sebastian Laboa yesterday vigorously condemned the campaigns unleashed against the Catholic Church by the communications media controlled by the government of current President Eric Arturo Delvalle, of the Republican Party.

The representative of the Vatican in Panama said: "We have noticed recently how those who call themselves Christians have used slander and lies against true Christianity, describing the others as seditious ones and, worse yet, calling them children of Satan. They have not hesitated to call the Apostolic Nuncio's office the site of the devil and the site of the satanic rites."

The sermon of the dean of the diplomatic corps in Panama was made during a first communion mass at the La Salle School chapel.

He added that he considered such offenses against his person "something secondary," that he had not been affected at all, and that when some civilian and military authorities had called him to tell him "do not worry, we support you," and attacked the "barbaric attitude" of the communications media, he had "answered them that I was calm, because it was not my problem. The problem was with those who call themselves Christians and have failed, because they have publicly shown the opposite.

"Today they are trampling on the truth. And I wish to quote tonight what the holy father said in Sardinia, that 'there are bands of anti-evangelization,' which are the same bands and engage in lies and slander, especially when this is used as a weapon against human rights."

Meanwhile, LA PRENSA has learned that broad sectors of the community are planning public demonstrations to protest the campaign of the pro-government press against the religion of the majority of Panamanians, which has always been the bridge of understanding when national conflicts have provoked antagonisms that threatened the natural harmony of our people.

COLUMNIST ASSAILS REAGAN SPEECH TO UNITED NATIONS

PA271521 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 25 Oct 85 p 4

[Column by Joaquin Beleno: "Reagan's Speech"]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan's speech to the United Nations in New York yesterday threw a bucket of cold water on hopes for the economic recovery of all the debtor countries of Latin America. It was also a hard blow to the efforts of Contadora and the support group countries. President Reagan's speech was applauded only by Honduras and Chile. The rest of the countries maintained a significant silence that has been broken only by Nicaragua's protest.

This report that we are commenting on was broadcast by the French International Service, Radio Exterior de Espana, and other European stations.

Although you might think that this does not affect Panamanians, we can assure you that Reagan's position encourages those who are using every available means to destroy the government of Eric Arturo Delvalle so that there will be a new weakening of the forces that today lead the country.

It is very depressing to see that many leaders of the forces in the government do not clearly understand this and are involved in a silent but no less scandalous internal struggle to obtain advantages and superiority in leadership, without realizing that this lack of unity is destroying the strength of the government.

Those who have been the authentic defenders of this government from its beginning are adrift and do not defend it with the strength and spontaneous enthusiasm of the past, because either they do not feel sufficiently supported and protected or they are disoriented. The offensive colleagues of the opposition now attack at will with the support of bigger forces and with lies and even worse, with distorted truths that they tell the public.

What power is behind those movements that do not permit the current president to govern? Reagan is burying Contadora. He is destabilizing all the countries of the continent. The wealthy follow him without realizing that they are becoming impoverished though they still have money. The poor do not come out to struggle with the proper enthusiasm of those who believe that they are being well-guided.

Reagan's speech undoubtedly endangers the country's stability and the real recovery of the Panama Canal in the year 2000.

NORIEGA PRAISED FOR DUARTE KIDNAPPING MEDIATION

PA260451 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 25 Oct 85 p 4

[Editorial: "A Dignified and High-Minded Response"]

[Text] The accords to free the daughter of President Napoleon Duarte are a reward for Panama, which once more reaffirms its status as a nation of peace, hope, and mediation between parties in conflict. These accords are also a mark of pride and indisputable triumph for General Manuel Antonio Noriega, who put all of his moral authority and personal prestige on the line in such a difficult enterprise. In addition, thanks to the negotiations carried out in our territory, Salvadoran guerrillas will gain their freedom and the prospect of receiving medical attention in other countries, after being injured or crippled in the bloody civil war that is rocking this sister Central American country.

The existence of guerrillas or kidnappings are relentless and painful realities to which many countries are subjected. When the kidnapped are prominent people, such as the daughter of the president of El Salvador, the act becomes of worldwide interest. This characteristic hinders understanding between the participants in the drama, who then turn for help to countries whose leaders inspire confidence.

Panama has a long-standing tradition of inspiring such a sense of security. We have only to remember the storming of the Managua palace by Sandinist guerrillas during Somoza's era to note that on that occasion a carnage of deputies and guerrillas was avoided because Panama agreed to allow the fighters to travel to our country, which was the only place they trusted, because of the country's prestige and because of the leadership shown by General Omar Torrijos Herrera.

Now a bit of tranquillity has been brought to the grief-stricken Salvadoran president and his distinguished family, thanks to the fact that Gen Noriega is still holding high the torch of the October process. That torch bears the sign of political independence, the self-determination of peoples, the struggle for national liberation, and links with all persuasions throughout the world. These concepts are behind Gen Noriega's constant trips to the Central American region and his meetings with presidents and leaders of these countries, independent of the ideologies they represent.

While those negotiations were taking place in our territory, local political factions, in alliance with negative foreign forces, were and still are carrying out a campaign to discredit not only Gen Noriega but the whole country.

To reach their objective, they have not hesitated to present our territory as a no-man's land, a place where there is no freedom, where one cannot talk, and where every citizen lives in hiding or in fear. This entire farce has been staged under the shield of the cruel murder of Dr Hugo Spadafora and is taking advantage of the very legitimate desire of all citizens for an in-depth investigation and, as the president of the Republic has said, to see those responsible punished if the crime occurred in Panama. A serious investigation without sensationalism or political bias would determine where it happened. This international campaign of defamation is part of a plot that had been hatched against the established powers. That conspiracy has as its main target Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Defense Forces. The feverish conspirators' minds thought to begin the dismemberment and demoralization of our armed institution in this way, as a first step to a take-over of power by political groups which thus hastily threw themselves down the slope of sedition.

Rendered impotent by the immense unity shown by the Defense Forces, their loyalty to their commander in chief, and the power of the Panamanian people evidenced in the magnificent march against sedition on 10 October, the frustrated conspirators have intensified their attacks on the country and against Noriega at the international level. However, those who do not hesitate to resort to all sort of lies and libel, those who in shameful demonstrations have clamored for foreign intervention, have failed in this campaign.

The negotiations to release Napoleon Duarte's daughter place Noriega well above his defamers and maintain Panama's foundations of peace. Commander Noriega's mediation is an absolute triumph of moral power over diatribe and confers an extraordinary dimension on the Panamanian military man as an authentic emissary of peace in Central America.

Honest and humanitarian actions like that by the chief of the Defense Forces are a dignified and high-minded answer to those who do not know how to rise above their petty desire for power.

BELIZE

HIGH COURT RULES ON BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

FL291920 Bridgetown CANA in English 1827 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Oct 29, CANA -- The high court here has ruled that the refusal by the Belize Broadcasting Authority to refuse permission for the showing of a political discussion programme by the opposition People's United Party (PUP) was a breach of the constitutional right to free speech. THE BELIZE BRIEFING, a London-based monthly newsletter received here, said the judgment was the last by Barbadian Chief Justice George Moe before he left to take up duties as a judge of the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal. Moe, a former Barbados attorney-general, did not have his contract renewed by the Manuel Esvquivel Administration.

The newsletter said representatives of the PUP, and Channel 9 TV station owner Arthur Hoare, brought the case before the supreme court. The plaintiffs argued that a decision by the Broadcasting Authority to refuse showing of the programme was unconstitutional. Moe ruled that the refusal of permission represented a breach, since the plaintiffs had suffered discrimination as a result of their political beliefs. Moe declined to make an order restraining the Authority from preventing broadcasting of the programme. He said: I would think it very odd indeed if a public authority sought to flout a decision of the court.

The programme has yet to be shown, the monthly newsletter reported. BELIZE BRIEFING said, in a sequence of events symptomatic of the viciousness of Belizean politics, an appeal against the decision was announced and the airing of the programme prevented.

It said the opposition claimed that the owners of Channel 9 were threatened with closure, if they dared to screen the show.

ESQUIVEL SCORES BANKS' 'INSUFFICIENT' CONTRIBUTION

FL291600 Bridgetown CANA in English 1522 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Oct 29, CANA -- Belize's private banks, which are 100 per cent foreign owned, have been under attack in the press and by the prime minister for making an insufficient contribution to development.

Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel has condemned the repatriation of profits, and criticised the banks' reluctance to make credit available for business expansion. He has previously drawn attention to difficulties in taking up Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) funds, due to what he said was the banks' inertia.

It is also alleged that preference is made in the allocation of foreign exchange to commericial importers, leading to a shortage for productive industry and private individuals.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO RECEIVE ALL REFUGEES

PA282020 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Oct 85 p 3

[Text] The government has decided not to reject any refugee that arrives in the country. Everyone will be received, and a study will be done later to determine status.

This decision was adopted in view of reliable reports that a great number of refugees will be arriving shortly through the border area. Costa Rica will apply the description of refugees according to the Geneva Conference of 1967 and the Cartagena conference of last year.

The UNHCR will significantly assist the government once it is determined where the refugees will be located and their status, which is the government's sole concern. It was also reported that special attention will be given to the "temporary" camps and the "permanent" camps.

The Costa Rican Red Cross will cooperate with the new organization [not further identified] in the way it has handled the refugee problem in Costa Rica.

SIGNING OF CONTADORA DOCUMENT QUESTIONED

PA281650 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 21 Oct 85 p 14 A

[Excerpt] As if all of a sudden they had come to realize that the Contadora Group is too slow and unable to properly face the problems of Central America, and that this fact is acting against the very existence of the mediation forum, the Governments of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela have set a prompt deadline for concluding their work.

On 7 October, following the Contadora Group foreign ministers meeting in mid-September, the "count-down" began for the signature of the "Contadora Act for Peace and Cooperation in Central America," the deadline for which is 20 November.

The fact that this deadline was set reveals something that we have mentioned in previous editorials: The group has been transformed from a means for finding a solution to the Central American crisis to becoming an objective. And just as it happens so often with bureaucratic organizations, the Contadora Group has decided to place its existence and prestige above the objectives that the countries that compose the group set for Contadora when it was created in January 1983. The deadline launched the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua into a series of negotiations that have made the deputy foreign ministers of these countries made weekly trips to Panama to reach a final agreement on the act, the third version of which was made known following the already-mentioned foreign ministers conference.

A few days after a text of this document was delivered to the Central American governments, President Luis Alberto Monge stated that Costa Rica was prepared to sign it. Later, Costa Rican Foreign Minster Carlos Jose Gutierrez said he doubted that Nicaragua will sign the act. It appears that the Sandinist regime is putting many conditions so that the act is polished in a way as favorable to the Sandinists as possible.

In view of this fact, is there any reason why our government should be disposed to signing the act? We don't think so. While it is true that for years Costa Rica has been faithfully abiding by all the commitments included in the document, it is also true that this is not enough reason for signing the act.

Our pacifist and democratic condition, as well as the fact that we are unarmed, must make us move with much caution and to ask ourselves, at the moment that we study the act, how good will it be for resolving the main problem being faced by peace and democracy in the isthmus: the existence of a Marxist-Leninist regime in Nicaragua.

MONGE ATTENDANCE AT INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR DENIED

PA301542 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] President Luis Alberto Monge will not inaugurate the international seminar sponsored by the National University's International Relations School under the theme "U.S. Relations Toward Central America."

The meeting is scheduled to begin tonight at the Balmoral Hotel, with the participation of delegates from several countries in the region who will analyze the Central American conflict and U.S. influence in the area.

Although the program states that President Monge will attend the inauguration, presidential sources denied this, and said he will not be present at this international meeting. This is the same seminar that Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado and Sandinist Interior Minister Tomas Borge were reportedly going to attend, which stirred a national controversy.

As we may recall, upon returning from Israel and Puerto Rico, President Monge said that he did not consider Borge's visit to our country advisable in view of the current negative atmosphere in Costa Rica against the Nicaraguan leaders. These remarks apparently made the Sandinist commander change his mind about the trip, although he reportedly tried to obtain an invitation to visit the country, in an attempt to soften the position assumed by Monge's government with regard to Nicaragua.

CONSULAR RELATIONS WITH USSR TO BE ESTABLISHED

PA261503 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Costa Rica and the Soviet Union have signed a consular agreement. Yesterday afternoon Costa Rica and the Soviet Union signed an agreement calling for the development of consular relations.

The agreement was signed at the Foreign Ministry. Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez signed on behalf of Costa Rica. Soviet Ambassador to Costa Rica Vuriy Pavlov signed on behald of the Soviet Union.

This agreement is in line with the Geneva agreement. It was promoted because aspects which are considered important by both nations are taken into account in these relations.

Carlos Jose Gutierrez said that although it took a long time to sign the agreement, it will help both countries' citizens because it provides legal basis for filing any kind of claim.

The foreign minister said that counsular relations with the Soviet Union will permit all levels of relations [todos los tramites] between the two countries, which have maintained diplomatic and cultural relations for several years.

The Soviet ambassador said that the agreement will contribute to creating a more favorable environment for the development of relations.

CASTRO, GARCIA FOREIGN DEBT PROPOSALS REJECTED

PA281559 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 19 Oct 85 p 2

[Text] Costa Rica has rejected Fidel Castro's proposal for not paying the foreign debt as well as Peruvian President Alan Garcia's proposal for paying only a set percentage of the countries' exports.

The announcement was made yesterday by Dr Enio Rodriguez, the minister counselor for finance and external debt, during a news conference he hosted when returning from a summit of economists in Seoul and Tokyo.

He did not leave any doubts as to the fact that Costa Rica "does not align itself with either of the two proposals." He commented that the so-called Baker proposal (of the United States), supported by Great Britain, Canada, France, and the FRG, seems more acceptable.

This proposal for the payment of the Latin American foreign debt, which amounts to approximately $400 million [as published] (of which Costa Rica owes $4.5 billion, stipulates that: A) the countries must abide by structural adjustment programs; B) the commercial banks will increase their credit, C) the role of the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, etc. will increase in each country.

A possible increase of 3 percent in what the banks offer and of 1.5 percent from the World Bank, IDB, etc. (sentence as published]

At any rate, Rodriguez, who met in Seoul with economists from the world creditor banks, said that the foreign debt problem is a long-range problem.

"Costa Rica," he said, "is already applying methods that are being recommended by the United States, which is very comforting. [no closing quotation mark as published]

VISIT TO LIMON BY 'YANKEE WARSHIP' CRITICIZED

PA260435 San Jose LIBERTAD REVOLUCIONARIA in Spanish 11-17 Oct 85 p 4

[Text] Once again the Legislative Assembly, with the only opposition coming from Popular Vanguard Party delegates Ferreto and Menendez, on Thursday, 3 October approved the arrival and stay in Limon of the crew of a new Yankee warship.

This time it is the vessel John L. Hall, carrying modern warmongering devices, with a crew consisting of 15 officers and 196 enlisted seamen, who will remain in Limon from 16-21 October.

The increasingly frequent arrival of Yankee war vessels and helicopters in our territory generates many doubts and concerns, especially when the visits take place within the framework of Reagan's increasing aggressiveness toward Nicaragua.

There are still several helicopters around, which have disappeared from the public eye to engage in activities that public opinion is totally unaware of, after carrying out so-called "social welfare" activities.

This time it is the destroyer John L. Hall, equipped with nuclear weapons, that has arrived on our coasts, as similar vessels have been arriving, with ever-increasing frequency.

The truth is that the Yankee marines do not come here to carry out military exercises. The constant visits, in view of the existing situation in the area, are at the least a provocation and threat to Nicaragua. Moreover, there is a clear Yankee objective, which is to make our people accustomed to seeing warships and helicopters from that country in national territory.

There is another matter related to the permits and visits that puts the Legislative Assembly in a very bad light. During their stay in national territory, the crews of the warships spend the whole time having fun in bars and brothels.

Beginning in the morning, the marines stroll by those places in Limon, and they are also seen in streets waiting for the object of their vices. In moments of lucidity, they run to a Limon town, with journalists previously invited, to spend a few minutes painting a school.

For the U.S. Navy, Limon is a safe port where they can let their instincts and passions run wild without problems and with the consent of the highest power of the country after remaining some time on the high seas in their warmongering activities.

This is the sad mission that the Assembly delegates, with the exception of our Comrades Menendez and Ferreto, have assigned to the Costa Rican parliament.

15 PARTIES REGISTER CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS

PA301907 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 18 Oct 85 p 8 A

[Text] Fifteen political parties have registered their candidates for the forthcoming presidential elections in our country, the director of the Civil Registrar's Office, Carlos Vieto, has reported. Out of the total of 15, 10 are at the national level, 4 are at the provincial level, and 1 is at the canton level.

The deadline for registering candidates expired yesterday at 1630, and just 10 minutes before the deadline, members of the Limon Authentic Party and the United People coalition went to Mr Vieto's office to register. When the deadline expired, Mr Vieto said that the office will now study all registrations and issue a pronouncement as soon as possible.

He explained that out of the 20 parties that are registered, only five did not register candidates. These are: the Costa Rican Concord Party, the National Movement, the People's Action Party, the Radical Democratic Party (at the national level), and the Laborite Party, at the cantonal level.

At the national level, the following parties registered: the National Liberation Party [PLN], the Social Christian Unity Party [PUSC], the Popular Alliance, the National Christian Alliance, National Unity, the Independent Party, Generalena Union (only deputies and alderman for San Jose, Limon, and Cartago), the National Republican Party (only for deputies), the Democratic National Party, and the United People. Of these, Popular Alliance and the United People are the only coalitions.

The Civil Registrar's Office has already issued a resolution on the 15 requests for registration of tickets by 11 parties. Each group may claim its registration in three tickets for president and vice president of the Republic, deputies, and aldermen.

The following registered at the level of province: the Alajuela Solidarity Party, the Cartago Agricultural Union [UAC], the Limon Authentic Party, and the Alajuela Democratic Action. The only party at the cantonal level is the New Alajuelita Party.

Rodolfo Ledezma, of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, reported that nine parties registered with provincial electoral boards. The parties are: the National Unity Party, the PLN, the PUSC, the National Republican Party, Generalona Union, the Popular Alliance, the United People, the National Christian Alliance, and the Independent Party.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE DEPARTS FOR OFFICIAL U.S. VISIT 30 OCTOBER

PA301801 Paris AFP in Spanish 1733 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Oct (AFP) -- Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte left today for the United States on an official visit, according to government officials.

Duarte's trip was handled from the beginning in absolute secrecy, but it was learned that the chief of state will speak before Washington's National Press Club on terrorism.

The Salvadoran Congress had granted Duarte permission to leave the country between 31 October and 10 November, but for unknown reasons, the president advanced his departure date.

Today, several reporters arrived at the Ilopango military airport for the president's departure, but they were not allowed to enter the premises. Duarte also intends to pay an official visit to Spain between 5 and 6 November to meet with that country's president, Felipe Gonzalez.

FURTHER REPORTS ON DOWNING OF ARMY HELICOPTER

Venceremos Details Incident

PA310206 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Now the military information on fighting in El Salvador: In our previous cast, we reported a downed helicopter. We will now provide the exact name of the place where that helicopter crashed. We first said that it crashed in Ilobasco, but a complete report indicates it crashed in Copapayo Canton, Guazapa.

The report reads as follows: On 29 October at 0300 the dictatorship began an air attack on (Llanos de San Antonio) with two Dragonfly A-37 planes and helicopters equipped with rockets. Seven minutes later, it began to land helicopter-borne troops on El Patacon Hill supported by a C-47 and a Huey-500 [as heard] helicopter.

At 1340, these troops were picked up and transferred to Azacualpa Hill.

Attention, here is a report on the downing of a Huey-500 helicopter. Close attention. At 1430 on 29 October, the Huey-500 helicopter, the C-47 plane, and a small aircraft and two push-and-pull [preceding words in English] aircraft, accompanied by two helicopters equipped with rockets were giving support to troops that had already landed. At 1500 the revolutionary fire downed a Huey-500 helicopter in Copapayo Canton, Suchitoto jurisdiction. The entire crew of this helicopter was killed. We repeat, at 1500 on 29 October, our revolutionary fire downed a modern Huey-500 helicopter in Copapayo Canton, Suchitoto jurisdiction; as a result, the entire crew was killed.

We are carrying out the corresponding investigation, because chiefs of operations and U.S. advisers often travel in this kind of aircraft. We recall that this was confirmed in an operation in which a U.S. officer captured Commander Nidia Diaz in San Vicente Department.

That is why we are carrying out investigations, because we repeat, chiefs of battalions, chiefs of operations, and U.S. advisers often travel in this kind of helicopter. That downed helicopter, a Huey-500, is one of the most modern available to the puppet Army.

On the downing of this expensive helicopter, the report adds that at 1520, the enemy landed troops from 20 helicopters in Copapayo Canton to pick up the pieces of the Huey-500 helicopter that was downed and also to pick up the dead crew. In view of the effort, the display of force, the display of air units, and the desperation shown by the regime, it is very probable that high-ranking officers and U.S. advisers could have been aboard. That is, the dictatorship had to suspend all activity and dedicate 20 helicopters to pick up the dead and the remains of this downed helicopter.

At 1530 a helicopter crane picked up the pieces of the Huey-500 helicopter and carried them to the military airport of Ilopango. We also report to our people that [words indistinct] that lasted from 1030 to 1800, and during the three landings, our forces sustained no casualties. We repeat, although the dictatorship dropped thousands of pounds of explosives on the area, the guerrillas sustained no casualties. Planes and helicopters dropped a large amount of explosives on the civilian population in that area of Guazapa.

We will continue to report on Guazapa, where, in the past few hours, there were eight more casualties inflicted on the dictatorship ranks. To this moment, we have inflicted 33 casualties in Guazapa in addition to the 4 crewmen of the downed helicopter who were reportedly killed.

Attention, much attention, following the defeat of the dictatorship on 29 October, reports indicate that on 30 October, another helicopter was damaged in Guazapa and the artillery man of that helicopter was wounded. The report states that at approximately 0915 on 30 October, FMLN guerrilla units in Guazapa, in the vicinity of La Aldea Canton, opened fire on a Huey, I mean UH-1H helicopter. This helicopter was seriously damaged and an artillery man was seriously wounded. This helicopter was damaged on Guazapa Hill, La Aldea Canton. To this moment, the enemy has sustained 38 casualties in Guazapa, including the crew members of the helicopters who were killed and wounded.

Two helicopters hit on Guazapa Hill, in the vicinity of Guazapa: the Huey-500, which was downed on 29 October, and this helicopter, which was damaged during the combative effort of 30 October. In sum, the operation in Guazapa has turned out to be a military disaster, because we repeat, dictatorship troops have sustained 38 casualties. Our combatants have inflicted 38 casualties on the dictatorship in Guazapa -- most of them by mines -- including pilots and artillery men hit by the fire of the revolution. In Guazapa, the puppet Army met a military disaster, while puppet Napoleon Duarte traveled today to the United States to see his [word indistinct]. This is the status of our advance; the tyrants run to request more aid while here, our people continue to defeat the high command gorillas.

U.S. Advisers Reported Killed

PA310226 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2322 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Excerpts] A report on the downing of a helicopter in the Cinquera area has just reached Radio Farabundo Marti.

Here is the report: On 29 October 1985 at 1500 a Huey-500 [as heard] helicopter was shot down by our antiaircraft fire at Copapayo Canton, jurisdiction of Suchitoto. The entire crew was killed.

The helicopter was shot down while providing air cover to an airborne landing which the enemy was carrying out at Azacualpa Hill. The Huey-500 is one of the modern helicopters of the puppet Army.

This helicopter is the best way to direct airborne operations. Normally, it carries the officer in command of the operation and the specially trained pilot for the direction of the airborne operation. We have learned that the helicopter carried one or two U.S. advisers, who are the ones who give the orders to the officer in command of the operation.

The helicopter was shot down during an intensive bombing that began at 1030 along with an airborne landing. It is clear and evident that the commander of the operation was aboard this helicopter. In order to recover whatever was left of the Huey-500 helicopter shot down by our guerrilla forces, the desperate high command of the puppet Army found itself forced to mount an even larger operation, which consisted of a colossal bombing, machinegunning, and airborne landing. This latest operation to rescue, we repeat, to rescue the dead and the wreckage of the Huey-500 was directly commanded by the U.S. advisers with an attitude of scorn because of the inability demonstrated by the puppet Army commands.

Army Labels Reports 'False'

PA310004 Paris AFP in Spanish 2331 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Oct (AFP) -- Today the Salvadoran guerrillas claimed they had shot down an Army helicopter, while official sources said that the craft had to make a forced landing when its tail brushed against a tree.

According to Radio Venceremos, the rebels' official voice, the incident took place at 0300 on 29 October in the Cinquera jurisdiction, in northern Cabanas Department, where a counterinsurgency operation is underway.

However, a spokesman for the Armed Forces Press Committee (Coprefa) said today that the report is "false", and that what really happened was that the helicopter's tail brushed against a tree branch, and that the pilot had to make a forced landing when he heard the noise. The spokesman added that after the pilot inpsected the craft, he flew to the base.

The Army has continued to carry out permanent counterinsurgency operation in Chalatenango, Cabans, San Vicente, Usulutan, San Miguel, and Morazan, mainly in the northern and central areas of the country.

Meanwhile, no group has yet claimed responsibility for the kidnapping last Saturday of Civil Aeronautics Director Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos. However, military sources believe that the FMLN is to blame.

According to reports that have circulated over the past few hours, Avalos was reportedly killed by his kidnappers. However, the Armed Forces spokesperson said that there is no evidence pointing to that possibility.

Our informant added that this case, as the case of the kidnapping of President Napoleon Duarte's daughter , will be handled by the presidency.

OFFICIAL VIEWS TIES WITH NICARAGUA, CONTADORA

PA301256 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 29 Oct 85 pp 3, 38

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta said yesterday during a news conference that "I understand the position of ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] of asking for a break in diplomatic relations with Nicaragua." He added that the government has considered breaking diplomatic relations with that country, but that "politics per se are one thing and diplomatic relations are another."

Acevedo was accompanied by Colonel Jesus Natividad Caceres, military adviser to the Foreign Ministry, during the news conference.

Acevedo said that the government respects diplomatic concepts and will weigh them before taking such a step. He said that the kidnapping of President Duarte's daughter must be added to other actions of the Nicaraguan Government, such as the direct meddling through its assistance to Salvadoran guerrillas, which, he reiterated, may lead to a break in relations.

Regarding the latest meeting of the Contadora countries, he said that all nations of the world hope it provides the necessary means to achieve immediate peace in Central America.

"During this last meeting we discussed the military aspects, which are very important because we are in the final stage of the Contadora process, during which all of us must give our final views on the arms buildup and the composition of the verification and control commission, which will have the difficult mission of supervising and exerting control over all of the agreements and commitments that we may reach in the political, economic, and military areas," Acevedo said.

Acevedo noted that one condition which has been set is that the five Central American countries conclude a negotiated agreement among themselves so that any agreements that may be reached -- and two-thirds of those included in the document have been concluded -- will not be subsequently contested by the parties themselves on the grounds that they did not participate in the arrangements during the negotiations.

He said that the key to peace in Central America lies in the armaments. No agreement has been reached yet on arms verification. This is one of the topics on which we Salvadorans are farthest apart from the Nicaraguans in view of the fact that we have different ideologies, he said. Colonel Caceres referred to the aspects that "have a direct bearing on the question of national defense, such as the arms buildup, military maneuvers, and military advisers, in order to stop the arms race." He then virtually repeated the concepts outlined by the deputy foreign minister.

Acevedo said that all of the Central American countries are aware that peace is necessary. He added that no country is being pressured or will waste its time. All of us are aware that we must reach a settlement and all of us are making efforts to achieve peace.

Answering a question as to the military outlook in the event that Contadora fails in its efforts to achieve peace in the region, Colonel Caceres said: "If Contadora fails we will have no other option but to engage in bilateral dialogue, which we think has little chance of success.

"Other recourses are the existing instruments for the settlement of conflicts in a peaceful way in Latin America and, for military purposes, we have the Treaty of Rio de Janeiro on reciprocal assistance, TIAR: the OAS, which has not borne fruit in this aspect as all of us would have wished; and the United Nations, which also has elements that are alien to the regional negotiation and which, rather than settle the conflict, could worsen it. These are the available options.

"The military problem is a very sensitive one and, therefore, we are quite conscious of the fact that the public must be clearly informed about the proposals El Salvador has submitted," Colonel Caceres said in conclusion.

GUATEMALA

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADER'S HOME ATTACKED

PA310236 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0041 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Guatemala, 30 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- Alfonso Cabrera, secretary general of the Guatemalan Christian Democratic Party [PDC], was the victim of a terrorist attack this morning when a group of unidentified persons hurled a grenade at his residence. Cabrera, who is a congressional candidate, reported the incident to authorities today.

The secretary general of the PDC explained that just after midnight, approximately eight armed men entered the condominium where he lives and hurled the grenade at his apartment.

"Thank God they again missed when they aimed at my bedroom and no one was hurt," the political leader said, adding that this was the third attack against him. Deploring the fact that violent actions such as these continue taking place in Guatemala only 4 days before the general elections will mark the return to constitutional order, Cabrera said the political process will not be stopped by these intimidatory actions.

The Christian Democratic Party (PDC), which is left of center, is one of the parties with the greatest chance of winning the elections and taking Vinicio Cerezo to the presidency.

A few days ago the PDC headquarters in this capital was machinegunned by a group of men, resulting in damages to the secretary general's office, but no casualties.

HONDURAS

COMMENTARY SUPPORTS RETURN OF U.S. CONTRA AID

PA301258 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] It would be good to note that Honduras is a sovereign country, and as such it has every right to see to it that no one undermines its territorial sovereignty or attacks its firm determination to maintain strict observance of the principle of non-intervention in the private affairs of other states.

On these grounds, our government, through the Armed Forces, returned to the United States a shipment that arrived on a DC-6 airplane that had no identification whatsoever, which landed at the Toncontin International Airport last 9 October, coming from Houston, Texas.

The shipment contained non-military materiel and was being sent to the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, that is, for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, in open violation of Honduran neutrality regarding the internal conflict of the neighboring country.

Traditionally, our country has offered the best treatment to all foreign citizens who visit us, as long as they restrict their actions to the limits established by our laws and by good manners. However, it is logical that when there is a case of foreigners who do not observe these customs, our authorities are forced to adopt the necessary measures to defend our national dignity. This should not surprise anyone, because any state that claims to be sovereign must maintain its dignity in its relations with other states, as our Foreign Minister, Edgardo Paz Barnica, has said. It must maintain its dignity within the international community, especially in the contemporary world.

Therefore, it is necessary to strictly apply the law to all individuals who cast doubt on Honduras' neutrality with actions against our government or a neighboring government. Regardless of the origin or nationality of these people, the law must be applied to protect national interests. This is why our authorities have said that this airplane's arrival in national territory has served to increase vigilance of national landing strips and the border with Nicaragua, in an effort to prevent U.S. aid to the contras from being channelled through our country. The Honduran attitude must be clearly established.

PAZ BARNICA ON U.S. ACCORD, CONGRESS CRISIS

PA310005 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] The protocol signed between Honduras and the United States to regulate the presence of U.S. military and civilian personnel in Honduras honors our nation and makes us proud. Those who now criticize it were part of the Velasquista hordes that attacked embassies following the coup d'etat which ousted Doctor Ramon Villeda Morales. This was stated by Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica in reference to the publication of the protocol yesterday in a newspaper published in San Pedro Sula.

[Begin recording] [Paz Barnica] The newspaper article asserts that the agreement has been kept hidden from the people, but that is not true. You may recall that the Honduran Government and the Armed Forces issued a serious statement last year concerning security and economic matters, which was aimed at reviewing our relations with the United States. The action was described by various sectors at national and international levels as representing the dignified attitude of the Honduran Government and Armed Forces. Several protocols were negotiated with this context, to benefit national interests. One of these protocols refers to our penal jurisdiction over the U.S. personnel that will eventually come to Honduras. However, this benefits our country; it is absolutely harmless for our country. Quite the contrary, it serves to dignify us in our bilateral relations with the United States rather than keep us submissive like in the past -- something which was approved by those who so freely issue their criticisms now and who even participated in the attacks on embassies when Dr Ramon Villeda Morales' democratic government was ousted. Those who now criticize the protocol were members of the Velasquista hordes in the past -- in other words, you cannot talk about democracy if you are not a democrat, right?

[Unidentified reporter] Who....

[Paz Barnica, interrupting] No, I am talking in general terms; I do not want to mention names. What I wanted to say is that this protocol, like any other which might be signed in the future, is aimed at revising and modifying the 1954 agreement to benefit Honduran interests -- as recognized at national and international levels. In addition, once the protocol was signed, the Honduran Foreign Secretariat sent it -- along with another one on the improvement of airports -- the National Congress for approval. In other words, we have fulfilled all the necessary conditions concerning bilateral or multilateral protocols and agreements. Consequently, there is no need to create a scandal or to try to make something appear unseemly when it is quite correct and appropriate. President Roberto Suazo Cordova's democratic government defends Honduras' interests.

[Reporter] So, Mr Foreign Secretary, this agreement states that if either a U.S. civilian or military officer commits a crime in our country, he will be tried according to our laws?

[Paz Barnica] He will; that is precisely what this is all about. However, this was not underscored by the newspaper I talked about. Neither does it print editorials saying that Nicaragua -- according to the Nicaraguan leaders, themselves, including Defense Minister Humberto Ortega -- claims to have the best prepared army in Latin America; and it doesn't underscore the persecution or state of emergency which was decreed in Nicaragua to oppress the Nicaraguan people. They only published a small editorial about this. Nevertheless, it does highlight other matters which, in my opinion, damage the image of the presidential candidate for whom they act as spokesmen.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Secretary, how harmful can the incidents which took place at the National Congress last week be for our image at international level?

[Paz Barnica] I think that this was a dishonorable, shameful attitude and I clearly said so. I like to speak frankly; I state what I believe in and am not influenced by the circumstances. I think that, now that the situation has been overcome and now that we have sent the necessary explanations to all the embassies and diplomatic representations accredited in Honduras concerning the statements issued by the foreign secretary, the president of the Republic, and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the crisis is over. It was a deplorable incident, but I think that it had a positive outcome because the electoral process has been strengthened by this unsuccessful attempt. [end recording]

Views Nicaraguan Relations

PA262344 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] The foreign secretary of the Republic talks about the threat of a warlike confrontation, in a continuation of our transmission of the exclusive interview offered to our newscast on topics that have never been broached before with such candor.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] We want you to tell us what the situation really is in Nicaragua and what the policy of this government is [words indistinct] and what your achievements in (?your term) in office have been.

[Paz Barnica] Yes, gladly [word indistinct]. When President Suazo took office, Commander Ortega, who at the time was coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, went to see him with his retinue, and he was received by the president, even at the presidential residence.

[Words indistinct] we established mechanisms for bilateral solutions to certain points at the level of foreign ministers, deputy foreign ministers, ambassadors, the military forces, at the level of chiefs of staff, branch chiefs, and there were meetings at the level of the naval forces to avert maritime incidents. Afterward I will go on to the land portion [word indistinct] and the border actions, etc. Later I went to Nicaragua. D'Escoto was not there because he was attending Brezhnev's funeral in Moscow. I talked to Daniel Ortega alone, just as [words indistinct] the mechanisms [words indistinct]. He said: We do not have any great problem with Honduras. Our problem is with the United States, because we are the object of aggression. We have maintained diplomatic relations, which are still maintained, as well as consular relations with Nicaragua at the embassy level. I confess that our ambassador, Colonel Agripino Tapia, acted in a very prudent, sensible, and very cautious manner in Nicaragua, as is the case of a representative of a country that is in crisis at given moments in bilateral relations between Honduras and Nicaragua. But, one must analyze the Nicaraguan problem in its true perspectives. We were talking about Contadora recently, I believe, noting that Contadora's process of negotiation and policy on the aspect of security is the most sensitive. The economic and social aspects do not present any great problem. In fact, the five Central American countries will sign a draft treaty on economic cooperation between the EEC and Latin America in mid-November in Luxembourg. In the area of security, what has occurred in Central America has been an imbalance of the terms of regional security in view of the excessive arms buildup by Nicaragua. Then we must establish a balance, that is, we must reestablish the terms of balance, that military balance. This has been the object of negotiations. Our observations in October of last year about the Contadora Document on Peace and Cooperation in Central America were directed toward this purpose. All of these observations were received with misgivings.

To all this Colombian President Belisario Betancur told us honestly that he concurred with our observations 99 percent. And all those observations, in which Costa Rica and El Salvador also participated, at least 80 percent of them have been incorporated in to the new Contadora document. However, I want to touch on the military imbalance in Nicaragua. I have heard opinions expressed on television and some appreciations expressed by presidential candidates. I feel satisfied when I hear that they all agree on supporting the Contadora Group on what would imply a negotiated solution of the regional crisis. Regarding the border conflict with El Salvador I have also been [word indistinct] of the foreign policy. However, to speak about Contadora -- and I am sure that the presidential candidates who are deserving of all my respect are studying the situation at depth -- one must get acquainted with them in this manner, in depth, because it is a very complex negotiation. Some 3 or 4 days ago, a newspaper here, LA TRIBUNA, carried statements by Commander Humberto Ortega, the Nicaraguan defense minister, who said as follows: Nicaragua has the best overall and best trained Army in Latin America, and it is distributing 300,000 rifles among the population, and 6 months ago they distributed another 300,000. Are we going to sit with crossed arms in regard to this situation? Yes or no? Because the system that prevails in Nicaragua is expansionist by nature, in view of its makeup, its own Marxist philosophy, if you will. Then, a country such as Honduras, a neighbor of Nicaragua, or a country like Costa Rica which borders Nicaragua, or a country such as El Salvador which has also been the object of the Nicaraguan expansionism, believe that a peace document, a Central American peace document must guarantee security and that there must be an inventory of arms and an ad hoc commission for verification and control in matters of security, with an arms reduction, but with a limited minimum, not maximum; in other words, that the level go down, not up.

The Honduran Army has already done so. Our Armed Forces is the smallest with 18,000 men. Nicaragua has 150,000 men or more. Guatemala's is a large Army. El Salvador's is large, and now it is much more so with the civil war that seems to be getting worse with each passing day. Hence, the Nicaraguan phenomenon must be analyzed from the perspective of its democratization to ensure the fulfillment of the commitments on the part of Nicaragua. Nicaragua says that democracy is an internal and sovereign matter. [Words indistinct] it will say that the [word indistinct] is an internal, sovereign matter, but the UN and OAS Charters have a mandate whereby the states have the obligation to establish democratic, pluralist governments in periodic elections. In the Contadora process, the five Central American countries have assumed that reponsibility. We have set up working groups in Contadora, which have been accepted, which initially failed because of Nicaragua, but which have now been reestablished. We are reaching the river of truths. There is much talk about Contadora, without knowing deep down the complexity of the negotiations, the composition of the negotiation group, because the four countries -- Mexico, Colombia, Panama, Venezuela -- as well as the support group of the Contadora peace efforts are deserving of our greatest respect.

Let us see: If there is a crisis in Central America, the aggravating factor of that crisis is Nicaragua. In my opinion, I repeat, it constitutes a threat to peace, security, and democracy, when there is a crisis, one cannot engage in [words indistinct]. On Saturday's forum, which I watched on television, some candidates, in fact my friend Dr Carlos Roberto Reina, expressed a great truth. If one reviews the tapes, this can be confirmed. As a general rule, in international policy one cannot adopt a neutral attitude. That is, even Costa Rica has proclaimed neutrality in regard to armed conflicts, because it is a disarmed country, and President Luis Alberto Monge said in his inaugural speech on 8 May 1982 that Costa Rica could not be neutral in the democracy's struggle against totalitarianism. At this moment I recall a concept by Dante Alighieri in his renowned book "The Divine Comedy," which says: The hottest place in hell is reserved for those who at times of crisis claim they are neutral. Therefore, we cannot remain with our arms crossed. There is continuous interference and [words indistinct] we do not have evidence. I have heard opinions of persons who are interested in a civilized, peaceful solution to the Central American crisis, saying that Honduras has launched an arms race with the United States. That is not true. Honduras cannot arm itself to the teeth. What it wants is to enhance the quality of its Armed Forces and not its quantity. They say that Honduras is serving as an aggression platform for the so-called contras against Nicaragua. They say that on 13 September a helicopter was downed, but they do not say that it was an aggression by Nicaragua and that Honduras, in legitimate defense, responded to the aggression. This has been recognized internationally. They do not say what Humberto Ortega claims -- that they have the best trained Army in Latin America, they do not say that months before a convoy of seven Soviet-made armored vehicles, with 17 to 18 soldiers, were captured in Honduran territory and were later returned. They do not say that a Honduran helicopter with university professionals was downed by the Sandinist People's Army and that the bodies were returned and that the person who committed this crime against Honduras was decorated. They do not say that, but they do say that Honduras is the scenario of the platform for the so-called counterrevolutionaires. That is a very important topic. For me, the Nicaraguan insurgence as well as the Salvadoran insurgence are part of the internal conflicts in the two countries. But we withdrew our [word indistinct] of Nicaragua.

In Nicaragua there is no happiness, there is an internal political and armed conflict. That is why there should be a process of reconciliation and dialogue between the government and the political and armed opposition, as Duarte has already done in El Salvador.

This internal conflict has to do with the political system that prevails there, the system of despotism, where there is no freedom of the press, no freedom of religion, no freedom of association; there is press censorship, there is no freedom of circulation, etc. That is a reality. From that standpoint, that internal insurgence has repercussions in Honduras. Historically, it has been demonstrated [words indistinct] in Central America, when there is an internal conflict in a country, the scope of the conflict is not limited to the territory of that country but has repercussions in other countries and then [words indistinct] Nicaraguan military expansionism, illegal drug trafficking, the so-called insurgents or counterrevolutionaries the refugees, etc. etc. These are aspects that affect the five Central American countries and, to a larger extent, the direct neighbors of Nicaragua and Costa Rica on the one side and Honduras on the other.

Honduras proposed at the Contadora plenary meeting that all those state mechanisms that are requested and controlled internationally be adopted so that the problems of destabilization, such as this one, will disappear once the document on peace and cooperation in Central America is signed. In my opinion, this means that the concept of nonintervention should be understood on a reciprocal basis and the principles of self-determination of the peoples, in keeping with the UN Charter, should begin with the right of a people to freely elect their leaders. It also means that each country should assume its responsibilities in this matter in relation to the other countries.

In 1979 there were 52,000 Nicaraguas here who crossed the border and waged the revolution. When Somoza fell they returned. [words indistinct] for me Somozism is antihistorical. But now we have some 18,000 to 20,000 Nicaraguans, peasants, women, children, men, former politicians, etc. I do not know whether some of them have violated or are violating the laws, but I do not believe that this is so. In fact the Honduran Government has already taken some measures in that regard. The Honduran president issued instructions in that respect. The Armed Forces have adopted measures in that respect. [Words indistinct] invited Foreign Minister D'Escoto so that together they could visit the border between Honduras and Nicaragua, and he did not accept the invitation.

In any event, the verification on the spot of whether or not there are camps of insurgents or refugees, because we counted the refugees in the [words indistinct] of the United Nations and they are Nicaraguans, Salvadorans, and Guatemalans. If there are no insurgents then it is up to the foreign secretariat, a state branch, to handle it. However, I do believe that the Honduran Government, with the historic responsibility that characterizes it, and above all now that we are on the way to consolidating and strengthening the democratic system with the November elections for which we have requested international observers from all over the world, the Contadora Group, etc. etc., should assume more serious measures on cases [words indistinct] such as a manifestation of the regional Central American conflict.

In any event it is sad to see news such as that denounced by the coffee growers of El Paraiso, or if someone tells me that Choluteca, which has been a happy city, has the people going home at 1800 in the afternoon to rest, because they are afraid of the Nicaraguan rebels.

[Words indistinct] because some Somozists participated in the barbarous assassination of retired major and dear friend of mine, Ricardo (Aquile Lanza). I believe that we should think more about that. I think that the Honduran Government is aware of that, but this does not mean that the Honduran Government is lending itself to a destabilization maneuver against Nicaragua or that the Honduran Government is meddling in the internal affairs of Nicaragua. Nicaragua has intervened in the [words indistinct] We all have proof. I saw Cuban Foreign Minister Malmierca in a documentary on that occasion in New York who was saying that there was concern in Honduras because we know that in Cuba and Nicaragua there are from 1,500 to 2,000 men training for a guerrilla movement. [Words indistinct] I do not think that is possible.

NICARAGUA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RATIFIES STATE OF EMERGENCY

PA310116 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] The National Assembly has ratified the state of emergency for 1 year with amendments to the law. The writ of habeas corpus applies to all crimes as long as they do not threaten the country's security or public order.

Lifting of Measures Demanded

PA300443 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0005 GMT 30 Oct 85

[By Denis Garcia Salinas]

[Text] Managua, 29 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- Six opposition political parties of Nicaragua demanded here today the repeal of the national state of emergency and rejected a round of negotiation between the Sandinists and the United States on lifting the governmental measure.

In a document, which was signed by the Democratic Conservative, Communist, Socialist, Independent Liberal, Social Christian, and Central American Unionist Parties, they also rejected "any kind of aggression," foreign aggression against the Nicaraguan people.

Those parties maintain that the state of emergency imposed by the Sandinists on 15 October, "far from contributing to overcoming the profound crisis afflicting the country, has further worsened the already difficult national situation."

They also claim that "far from consolidating political pluralism, as President Ortega maintains, juridicially and officially speaking, that measure denies and obstructs it."

The Sandinist regime suspended the civil liberties of meeting and association, freedom of speech and demonstration, among others, in an attempt to stop what it called the "U.S. destabilization policy against the revolution."

As he announced the imposition of the state of emergency, President Daniel Ortega accused Washington of trying to establish an "ideological and terrorist" internal front to destabilize the revolution with the "conscious and unconscious" help of the right, left, and the church, as well of the help of the opposition's LA PRENSA newspaper.

The document signatories said that there state of emergency creates "additional conflicts, because it affects production; it corners, hinders, reduces, and denies the constituent process and strips the citizens of their rights and basic guarantees."

The Sandinist regime is currently carrying out a national consultation to probe public opinion on what should be in the political constitution to be drafted by 1986.

The opposition parties also believe that the decree "closes the door on the civic struggle maintained by various political parties advocating a civic [civilismo] option as the only appropriate way to achieve a democratization of Nicaragua."

Erick Ramirez, president of the Social Christian Party, said that the struggle "for the rights and guarantees of Nicaraguan citizens cannot be negotiated by the Sandinists and the United States abroad, because all of us Nicaraguans are the ones who must solve our own problems without any foreign meddling."

President Daniel Ortega recently proposed to President Ronald Reagan at the United Nations that he would lift the state of emergency if the United States commits itself to "cease the armed aggression" against Nicaragua.

On this part, Communist Party President Eli Altamirano said that the state of emergency "only favors the recruitment of the 'contras' into the U.S. interventionist policy against Nicaragua." He maintained: "That measure promotes Washington's militaristic and counterrevolutionary action."

Socialist leader Adolfo Evertsz stressed that his party does not support a dialogue with the "contras" and has not overlooked the U.S. aggressive escalation against Nicaragua." But although the signatory parties do not want a dialogue with the "contras," "we wish to find civic means to discuss the country's economic and military problems."

PASTORA APPEAL RAPS U.S. POLICY, CONTADORA

PA292256 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 18 Oct 85 pp 20, 29

[Paid advertisement by Eden Pastora Gomez bearing the logo of the Sandinist Revolutionary Front, FRS, entitled "Declaration to the Democratic Peoples of the World"; capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] The purpose of this declaration is to ALERT the democratic peoples of the world of the events that have been taking place in Washington, Moscow, Cuba, and the Contadora Group against the Nicaraguan people's ideals and aspirations for freedom and democracy and against the political and social future of the peoples of the continent.

My patriotic duty, my deep democratic convictions, and the ties of brotherhood that join the Latin American peoples to me, compel me to make this CALL TO ALERT to the genuine democrats, particularly Nicaraguans, as well as to the other Central American citizens.

I pray to God that my words can be heard and heeded by the men and women of unwavering thought and conscience firmly rooted in freedom and democracy. My CALL TO ALERT must elicit an immediate, massive response in the continent to check in time the virtual establishment in perpetuity of communism in Nicaragua and its gradual yet irreversible expansion to all countries and peoples in America.

I am not asking anyone to believe in me, nor do I pretend to be considered the master of any truth. The main purpose of this proclamation is that the true democrats of the world, particularly in Latin America, analyze each and every fact that I am going to explain, think it over, reach their own conclusion, and then use their own resources, influence, and power to prevent communism from completely taking over our hemisphere.

Today, more than ever before, it is necessary and urgent that the democratic forces of the Americas unite in order to save our peoples from the slavery of Marxism-Leninism, which is becoming stronger in Nicaragua as a result of the irresponsibility, blindness, and corruption of the governments and politicians that have devoted themselves to the tasks of persecuting, harassing, and even destroying the democrats, without stopping to think that they are thus contributing to totalitarianism becoming the most terrifying Latin American reality of the coming decades.

The events which have been taking place for several months concerning the Stalinist regime of Nicaragua must alter the inertia, passiveness, and indifference of the democrats because the consequences of these events directly affect the future of Central America and of all the peoples of the hemisphere. That is why I am making this CALL TO ALLERT NOW. Democratic minds must awaken NOW before it is too late for our peoples.

I would like to be mistaken in my attitude toward the behavior and activities of the U.S. Government and Contadora Group sectors that negotiate and sell out to the Marxist-Leninist regime of Managua and to the forces of international communism. Unfortunately, everything seems to indicate that it is the policy of the United States and the Contadora Group to yield Nicaragua to totalitarianism, which would undoubtedly lead to communist control over all Latin America, and, possibly, to World War III.

On many occasions I have denounced the agreements reached by the United States and the totalitarian regime of Nicaragua during the negotiations they held at Manzanillo, Mexico, in 1984. These agreements, which were reached in a very secret manner, and whose contents were never disclosed, will be ratified at the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Geneva. They will seek to implement them in November this year through the Contadora act, which will guarantee neutral zones of security for communism to the north and south of Nicaragua, which will serve to exterminate the democrats and establish the FSLN in perpetual power.

As a result of the Manzanillo negotiations, U.S. policy has experienced a change that favors the FSLN and harms the Central American peoples. In order to prevent an adverse reaction from democratic public opinion, particularly the thousands of Nicaraguans fighting against the totalitarian regime, President Reagan's government and the Nicaraguan Government have tried to hide the change in its policy in Nicaragua with aggressive rhetoric that conceals the absence of specific actions.

The democratic peoples can no longer trust the U.S. willingness to defend and preserve their freedom and democracy. It is now up to the menaced peoples themselves to join forces and fight to the death against subjugating communism. History shows that when the peoples leave it to the United States to defend them against treacherous and barbarous attacks of Marxism-Leninism, that country trades the freedom and democracy of those peoples for U.S. national security, abandoning them to their fate.

We find historical proof of this in the cases of Yalta, Korea, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Cuba. While the Cuban patriots awaited the assistance offered by the North Americans to save their homeland from the claws of Fidel Castro, Kennedy was negotiating with Khruschev. Hundreds of Cuban patriots died in the U.S. Bay of Pigs adventure. At present, it would not be possible for any Cuban to rescue his homeland from the totalitarian yoke because of the commitments between the United States and the USSR, which prevent this and which are using Nicaragua as a political merchandise.

Another Bay of Pigs is being concocted in Nicaragua. Once again the United States has negotiated with a communist regime for the freedom and democracy of a people. The Nicaraguan regime accepted the conditions imposed by the Reagan administration at Manzanillo. We are not opposed to negotiations. We shall never oppose them as long as we receive guarantees that we will not have to sacrifice everything, including our inalienable right to be free, in exchange for nothing. In a manifesto I made public, I supported the observation made by the Central American foreign ministers to the Contadora Group, because I realized that despite the negotiations proposed by the Central American foreign ministers, the FSLN and the opposition would not stop the war in order to negotiate under equal conditions. [sentence as published]

The conditions imposed by the Reagan government on the FSLN were:

1. Not to export the revolution.

2. To halt the flow of weapons from the USSR and Cuba to Nicaragua and from this country to El Salvador.

3. To halt the construction of airports for strategic bombers (Point Huete).

4. Not to proceed with the construction of the Soviet naval base at San Juan del Sur.

5. To halt construction of the atomic submarine supply base at Monky Point.

6. Not to acquire or install nuclear warheads in Nicaragua.

7. To gradually dismantle the Sandinist People's Army.

8. To hold elections at the end of 1984 (several months after the negotiations).

9. To decree an amnesty.

10. To encourage the remaining private enterprises.

11. To gradually withdraw foreign military advisers.

In exchange for the above the U.S. Government commits itself to comply and enforce compliance with the following points:

1. To dismantle the mobile and permanent bases in Honduras.

2. To end the Honduran-U.S. joint maneuvers.

3. To dismantle the troops it controls in the northern part of Nicaragua and to destroy those in the southern part over which it has no control.

4. To neither finance nor give political or military support to any group or force trying to destabilize or overthrow the government of Nicaragua.

5. To give economic aid to the FSLN by the end of 1985 and early 1986. To speak with representatives of international financing organizations (banks) to grant loans and economic aid to the regime.

6. [as published] Some of those agreements are being complied with, step by step, and others shall be fulfilled following the signing of the Contadora Document. The Cuban patriots trusted a U.S. President. The Nicaraguans cannot trust them. We shall never agree to allow the United States to negotiate with the communists for our freedom and democracy. We shall not be a part of another Bay of Pigs. The unfortunate experience of the Cuban patriots taught us that that world power only defends its own interests and security, without caring for the fate of the peoples it supposedly offers to support.

The details that reveal the change in U.S. policy in Central America and that should be carefully studied by the democrats who read this proclamation, include the following:

1. THE PUBLIC AND OFFICIAL U.S. POSITION: When the FSLN seized power and moved toward communism, the U.S. position was totally against the Managua regime. After the Manzanillo negotiations, the U.S. Government began to soften its position until the U.S. President finally sent a letter-commitment to Congress stating that his intention is to "pressure" the Managua communist regime and not to overthrow it. This statement was confirmed by Mr Shultz and the leaders of the Nicaraguan Opposition Union (UNO).

Thousands of Nicaraguans have died in northern Nicaragua and thousands of others are tortured in the FSLN's clandestine dungeons solely to "pressure" the communist regime. Are not those who die and who are tortured human beings, or is it that the democrats are cowards in the face of the Soviet thrust? The Nicaraguan people are dying every day and are suffering tortures with heroic stoicism in order to obtain their freedom and to establish democracy in their homeland. They are not doing this to "pressure" the Marxist-Leninists as President Reagan unfeelingly states.

2. CHANGE IN POLICY TOWARD THE COMBATANTS IN NORTHERN NICARAGUA: At the beginning of their struggle against the FSLN, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, led by colonels and captains of the former National National Guard of Somoza, had U.S. support in every sense. Reagan confronted many obstacles and difficulties in order to continue his economic, political, logistical , and other types of support to the FDN. This situation noticeably changed as a result of the Manzanillo negotiations. Outwardly appearing as if he is being pressured by Congress, the president has granted "humanitarian aid" to the FDN with the premeditated intention of having this organization dismantled within 1 or 2 months.

After it encouraged, promoted, and maintained the FDN, which was created by Somoza's colonels, the U.S. Government is already taking the necessary steps to abandon it to its fate.

The former guardsmen will go to Miami because they have the economic means to do so, but what will happen to the thousands of peasants, workers, and Indians who comprise the rank and file of the FDN? None of those Nicaraguans will want to return to Nicaragua while the FSLN is in the government because they are aware that they cannot believe the word and the promises of the Managua communists whose satanic perversity reaches the extreme of speaking about peace to the governments of the continent when all Nicaraguans know that thousands of guerrillas are trained in Nicaragua and that sooner or later they will unleash violence in their respective countries to overthrow those governments to which the FSLN is offering peace and brotherhood.

3. SUPPORT OF THE CONTADORA GROUP: From the moment that this group was created, the U.S. Government harshly criticized it and publicly and repeatedly stated that it was an organization whose objective was to defend and support the Managua totalitarian regime. As a result of the Manzanillo talks, the U.S. Government began to publicly support the group. Mr Shultz and the Nicaraguan leaders who founded UNO make frequent statements in favor of the Contadora negotiating group that just a few months ago they did not believe in and considered to be an ally of the FSLN.

4. PRESSURES ON THE GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT FIGHT THE MARXIST-LENINIST REGIME: The attitudes and public statements of some political leaders of the Nicaraguan opposition indicate that the United States is pressuring them to say and do what is advisable to the Reagan government. UNO leader Arturo Cruz was on the verge of signing a document in Rio de Janeiro with Bayardo Arce through which the opposition led by Cruz reached an agreement with the communists. He later stated that Daniel Ortega should be given a vote of confidence and be permitted to govern in peace and that for this reason, the opposition should surrender its weapons. Shortly afterwards, he resigned from the UNO because, he stated, the FDN general staff guardsmen had more power and command than the politicians. Pressured by the United States, Dr Cruz stayed in the UNO and denied the statements in this regard that he had previously made to various news media. Dr Cruz and other UNO leaders now resolutely support the Contadora Group because the United States has offered them the possibility of obtaining small shares of power in Managua's totalitarian regime.

5. PERSECUTION, HARASSMENT, AND OBSTACLES TO DESTROY THE FRS: This armed organization that fights in southern Nicaragua and the political groups that comprise the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, have been the victims of the most brutal repression ever seen in Central America. We have not only had to fiercely fight, almost without weapons, one of the most best trained and equipped armies in Latin America, but we have also had to confront the intrigues, manipulations, slanders, and lies of some U.S. sectors and some Nicaraguan political leaders who in their eagerness to obtain power have not hesitated to accept the pacts and deals that the Contadora group is negotiating with the FSLN Stalinists. This farce will continue as long as it serves the communist interests.

The FRS and its ARDE allies have flatly, clearly, and sincerely stressed that we do not covet power and that we have never coveted it. We are honest, decent, and patriotic revolutionaries who aim at toppling the Managua regime. Our stance is that, when Nicaragua is freed, a temporary government formed by honorable, well-known, and democratic Nicaraguans -- who do not belong or have not belonged to the FRS -- will take the necessary steps for the full democratization of Nicaragua.

The Contadora document, which democrats should examine very carefully, includes an item according to which "military, POLITICAL, financial, and logistics support for unconventional forces that struggle to destabilize or topple governments will be forbidden." This is the bloody drama of Bay of Pigs, which cost hundreds of Cuban patriots their lives. Supposedly, Nicaraguans will be trapped between the FSLN's Communist forces and those of the Contadora Group's internationalist "inspectors." If this is our destiny, then we accept it right now. We will never be slaves of Marxism-Leninism, either voluntarily or by force. We would rather die a thousand deaths than live under the communist yoke. Our motto has always been and will be FREE HOMELAND OR DIE, FREE HOMELAND OR KILL!

The first victims of the U.S.-FSLN accords and the Contadora Group moves have been the Misura [Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas] organization that operated in Nicaragua's northeast. The organization was disbanded after a plot that deprived it of its leader Steadman Fagoth. In addition, after they were taken to concentration camps, thousands of Misura Miskitos have been taken back to their places of origin on the banks of the Coco River, completely demoralized and without any hope of recovering their freedom. We Nicaraguans will never be able to believe in the Contadora Group because from its beginning, it has expressed its sympathy and support for the Nicaragua regime. We know that the FSLN will sign any document and that, for some time, it will abide by the document's clauses. But later, when the regime has been strengthened, the FSLN will initiate a process to exterminate the democrats and to install in perpetuity a totalitarian system and expand it to all of Central America. I ask all Nicaraguans and Central Americans to join me in this crusade against the Marxist-Leninist cancer. Sheltered by the blue and white Nicaraguan flag and guided by Cesar Augusto Sandino's nationalist, courageous, libertarian and untamed spirit, we Nicaraguans will be able to end this Communist nightmare that sheds blood and tortures our people and that has ruined our lives and those of our families. Beyond the power and machinations of the United States, the Soviet Union, Cuba, and all the Communist countries, and also beyond the Contadora Group, which attacks the most sacred right of a people -- freedom -- I am convinced that we Nicaraguans will be able to attain the freedom and democracy for which we have struggled so tenaciously for four centuries. If our blood and that of our children must be shed to save Nicaragua and all peoples of America from communism, then we must fulfill this historic destiny, even if we have to confront all the armies of the world. The FRS and its allies will not stop their struggle against Managua's totalitarianism. I tell those who try to impose this scourge of evil and crime upon us that we, the 5,000 men of ARDE whom I lead, will never surrender or kneel before the communists. They will have to kill us all in order to establish in our homeland that peace of the graves as it is experienced in Marxist-Leninist regimes. Nothing and no one will be able to stop our struggle for our freedom and the genuine democracy that we want.

I hereby express Simon Bolivar's oath today to Nicaraguans, to all my people, and to all democrats in the world: "I SWEAR BEFORE YOU. I SWEAR BY THE GOD OF MY FOREFATHERS. I SWEAR BY THEM. I SWEAR BY MY HONOR AND I SWEAR MY MY HOMELAND THAT I WILL NOT GIVE REST TO MY ARM OR TO MY SOUL UNTIL I HAVE SUCCEEDED IN BREAKING THE CHAINS OF COMMUNISM THAT OPPRESS US THROUGH THE WILL OF NINE INFAMOUS TRAITORS THAT HAVE SOLD OUR HOMELAND.

WITHOUT COMMUNIST TOTALITARIANISM OR RETURN TO THE SOMOZIST PAST. FREE HOMELAND OR DIE, FREE HOMELAND OR KILL.

USSR'S SHEVARDNADZE ADDRESSES WHITBOY STUDENTS

FL301355 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1257 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Remarks by USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at a ceremony at the Henry Whitboy School on the Isle of Youth on 29 October -- recorded in Russian with consecutive Spanish translation]

[Text] Before departing I met with the CPSU leadership, with Comrade Gorbachev, and with the rest of the CPSU Central Committee members. Comrade Gorbachev told me that in Cuba there exists a magnificent city, a magnificent city of youth, where representatives from many countries study, from Latin America, Central America, Africa, Asia, and other countries. He told me that I should not miss visiting this city. Gorbachev gave me the responsibility of giving you, in the name of our Central Committee, our warmest and most cordial greetings, and I bring you that greeting in the name of the Soviet leadership and also in the name of the Soviet youth. I wish you much happiness, much success, and liberty.

Castro Terms Visit 'Significant'

FL301411 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1257 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Remarks by President Fidel Castro at a ceremony honoring USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at the Henry Whitboy School on the Isle of Youth on 29 October -- recorded]

[Text] Comrade Eduard Shevardnadze's visit, during which he brings us greetings from the Soviet people, the CPSU, the government, and Comrade Gorbachev, is of great importance. It is greatly significant since the Soviet Union is the bulwark of the struggle for world peace. [applause]

Further Reportage

For Moscow coverage of the visit to Cuba by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, including talks with Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic, see the Latin America & Caribbean section of the 28-30 October issues of the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

MALMIERCA MEETS LESOTHO FOREIGN MINISTER

FL301934 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Official conversations between the foreign ministers of Cuba, Isodoro Malmierca, and the Kingdom of Lesotho, Vincent Montsi Marhele, began today. During the meeting bilateral relations and their perspectives were discussed. There was also an exchange of opinions on the most pressing problems affecting the world today, such as the crisis in Central America and the situation in South Africa.

BENINESE FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS MONTANE

FL310256 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Frederic Assogba Affo, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation from the People's Republic of Benin, met today with Jesus Montana Oropesa, alternate Politburo and Secretariat member, at the Central Committee headquarters. The meeting was held in a warm and fraternal atmosphere.

CASTRO GREETS ROMANIAN LEADERS ON ANNIVERSARY

AU291147 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 27 Oct 85 p 5

[Text] To Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, Communist Party secretary general and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and to Comrade Constantin Dascalscu, prime minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania:

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Cuba and the Socialist Republic of Romania, I extend to you, the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee, the State Council, the government, and the Romanian people our most sincere fraternal greetings on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], the State Council, and the government of the Republic, and all the Cuban people.

During the past 25 years the relations of friendship which bind our peoples, parties, and governments have manifested themselves on the most varied levels. Bilateral cooperation has increased at the same time, with constant economic development and the advance in socialist construction in Romania and Cuba.

We are certain that the principles on which our friendship is based and which have a solid Marxist-Leninist foundation will continue to prevail in the future as well.

Permit me to renew, dear comrades, my personal wishes for complete success in fulfilling your high responsibilities, much health, and much personal happiness.

Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

COUP RUMORS REPORTED IN EL SALVADOR

FL301545 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] The Salvadoran political panorama has become complicated in the last few hours due to serious domestic problems caused by criticism from the ultra-right of President Jose Napoleon Duarte and insinuations of a coup. The Salvadoran press terms the situation delicate as it occurs when the government is confronting growing social unrest and in the midst of the recent mysterious kidnapping of Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos.

Ultra-rightist groups published notices in the Salvadoran press calling on the Armed Forces to ask themselves publicly: "What would our silent and obedient Armed Forces say against a cynical and cowardly government?" While more than 160,000 state workers halted work, the Armed Forces occupied several buildings in the port city of Acajitla.

JAMAICA

LOCAL CURRENCY MAKES 'PHENOMENAL' GAIN 30 OCTOBER

FL301615 Bridgetown CANA in English 1600 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 30, CANA -- The Jamica dollar made a phenomenal 40 cents gain against the U.S. currency, after the Central Bank intervened heavily at the latest foreign exchange auction to halt a rapid slide since September.

The U.S. dollar is now worth J6 dollars or 16.6 American cents to the Jamaica dollar, against the 15.9 US cents after the previous auction last Thursday. The gain was the biggest by the dollar under the auction system since December last year, when it strengthened by 86 cents but soon collapsed again. Financial analysts today hedged on whether the rate could be held, uncertain the government had the resources to continue to shore up the weak Jamaican dollar.

At yesterday's auction, the government, in the face of sharp criticisms over the rapid plunging of the local currency during the past eight weeks, put US 8 million dollars into the auction, nearly four times the regular amount. Demand was for J10.7 million dollars, but US 1.1 million dollars worth of bids were disqualified. Some 83.3 per cent of the qualified bids were satisfied. Government and Central Bank officials here say that only 80 per cent of demand at each auction needed to be satisfied for the Jamaican dollar to remain stable.

John Jackson, the managing partner in the accounting firm Jackson Wright Jackson, like most analysts here, said it was difficult to forecast whether the new rate could be held, not knowing the level of the government's resources. But he was more optimistic of the possibility then others. Jackson said that incremental demand at each auction was only around 2.7 million dollars, so if the backlog was cleared off, the rate could be held stable. I would say that if US 5 million dollars can be put in the next auction, you could see a further driving back of the rate to around J5.50 dollars, which may be the intention of the government, he said. Thereafter, he said, on the assumption that September was a seasonal kink and there was really no run-away demand for foreign exchange, the possibility that the government has been able to build up some reserves which it could put into the auction and expectations from the winter tourist season, the rate would begin to rise only slowly.

Said Dr Paul Chen-young president of the Eagle Merchant Bank: Unless the government can maintain the level of support similar to yesterday's input, yesterday's revaluation of the dollar will be only temporary. Chen-young said that the future of the currency was difficult to predict, without being privy to the government's cash flow situation. Based on the information available, I cannot see any evidence of the ability to support the dollar at yesterday's level, in the foreseeable future, unless there are some other sources, he added.